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Jo Leavers
Writer, *Pretty flamingos...*
WHICH THREE WORDS SUM YOU UP? 'You bought what?' (Usually asked by my family.)
HOW DOES YOUR HOME MAKE YOU FEEL?

On a bad day: like I'm living in a to-do list. On a good day: inspired.
IF YOU WERE A HOME ACCESSORY, WHAT WOULD YOU BE? A boiling water tap. Always at the ready. Just add coffee.
WHAT'S YOUR FAVOURITE APP AND WHY? Instagram - snooping, legitimised.
WHAT WAS THE LAST THING YOU DID TO YOUR HOME? I'm in the middle of a loft extension. It's a sore point.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A SPARE £100? Bribe the builders to finish...



Kerstin Rose
Writer/stylist,
Industrial luxe
WHO'S YOUR DESIGN HERO? Giò Ponti, because of his elegance and sense of humour.
WHAT ARE YOU WORKING ON AT THE

MOMENT? A coffee-table book full of amazing interiors with photographer Christian Schaulin.
WHAT'S THE MOST UNUSUAL SHOOT YOU'VE DONE? A hoarder's apartment in Shanghai - we couldn't even get in, we had to rent furniture movers to clear some space.
WHICH SINGLE PIECE WOULD YOU PUT IN YOUR DREAM HOME? An original 1950 Serpentine Sofa by Vladimir Kagan.
WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A SPARE £100? Organise a hearty picnic at the beach in Hamburg with some friends.



Mary Weaver
Livingetc's
Houses editor
WHICH THREE WORDS SUM YOU UP? Energetic, enthusiastic, optimistic.
IF YOU WERE A SHADE OF PAINT, WHAT WOULD YOU BE? Farrow & Ball's Wimborne White. I love it because it's soothng, summery, bright and uplifting.

WHAT'S THE MOST UNUSUAL SHOOT YOU'VE DONE? A romantic old house on the so-called Moon river in Georgia - lovely, but we were bitten alive by swamp bugs!
WHAT WOULD YOU DO WITH A SPARE £100? Lunch at Colbert in Sloane Square, or an impulse buy at my local auction.
IF YOU WERE A HOME ACCESSORY, WHAT WOULD YOU BE? A chandelier - so I could hang around and sparkle all day.

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WIN!
See page 57

Photography Peter West Styling Elizabeth Cocoza Make-up Sotiris at Bobbi Brown using Bobbi Brown products

When I try to analyse

what makes a great **Livingetc** house, it inevitably boils down to a few key ingredients – good bone structure, well-considered colour schemes, a clever mix of design classics and personal pieces – and a touch of humour!

Those witty flourishes are often the final layer that lift a space from the tasteful and stylish to the memorable and fabulous. Looking through this issue, I realise that the details that most resonate with me are those that make me smile. Master of this approach is designer Jonathan Adler, whose NYC apartment (page 34) is a mix of bold interiors, flair and quirky personal touches – just look at the gold boot in the fireplace, or the evil eye artwork hung at the window. And the other homes featured also reflect their owners' sense of fun – from a monochrome Henry VIII portrait in a concrete Hamburg apartment to pink flamingos peeping out of garden foliage in southwest London! Or how about the puddle of carpet at the end of a stair runner in our navy decorating story (page 49) and the burnt matchstick-inspired coat stand (page 32)?

Proof for me that good design should always be taken seriously, but the best also makes us smile...

Suzanne Imre, EDITOR

ps Would you like to win this amazing bespoke Allegri ottoman from The Sofa & Chair Company – covered in Rubelli Donghia's Mirafiore printed velvet and worth £4,735 – as seen in our In the Navy decorating shoot? Just go to housetohome.co.uk/letcsfacomp and fill in your details. The winner will be selected at random when the competition closes on 10 September 2015. (FYI: the ottoman's dimensions are H88cm for the central back rest and Dia178cm.)

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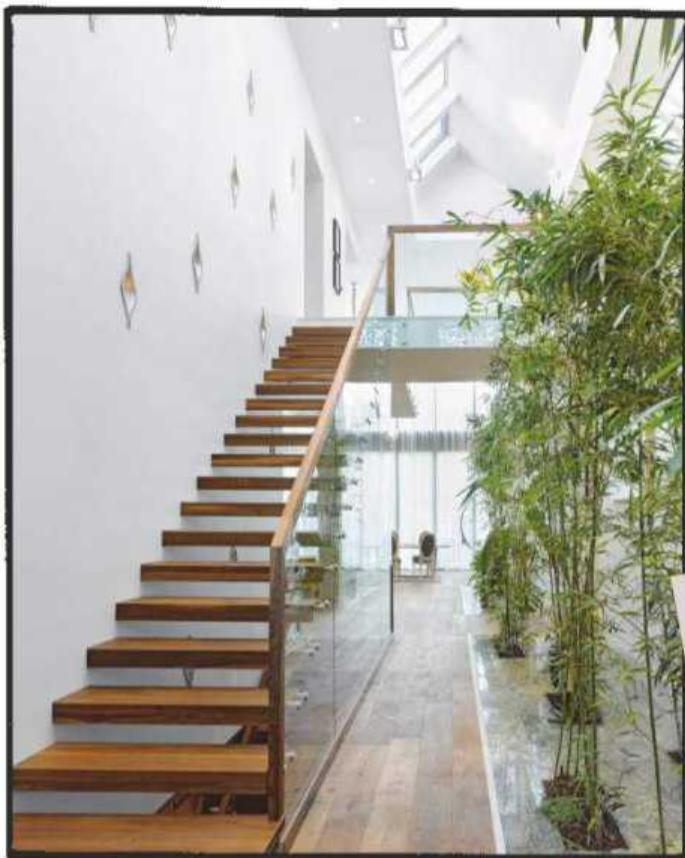
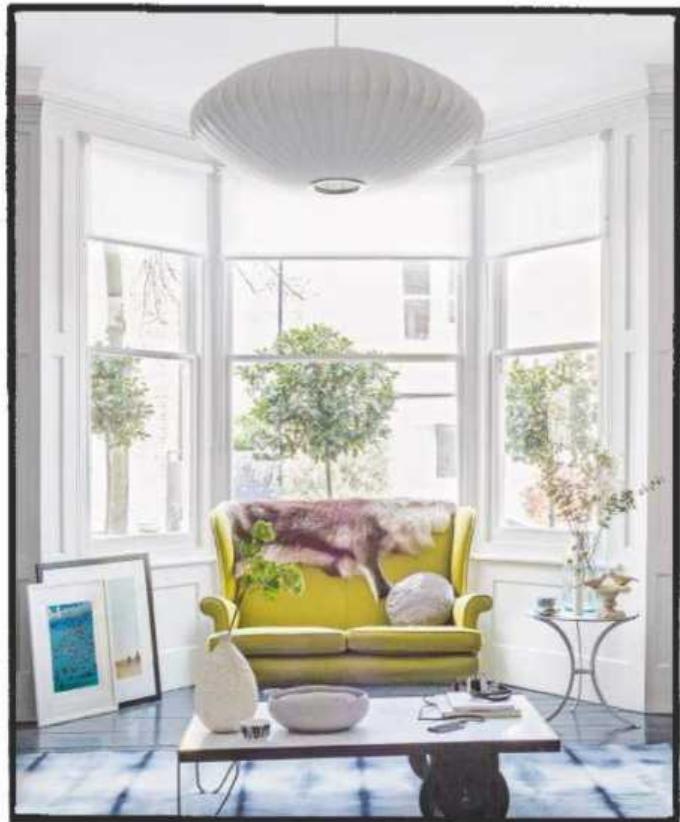


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Suzanne

Suzanne Imre, EDITOR



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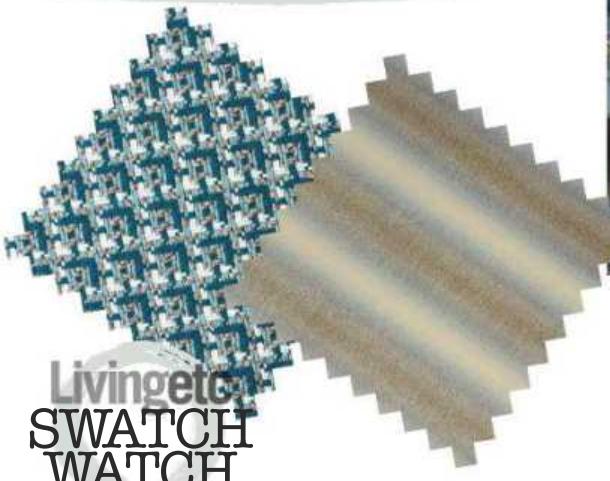


Big it up

The best chandeliers are always supersized – after all, they're meant to add grandeur to a scheme.

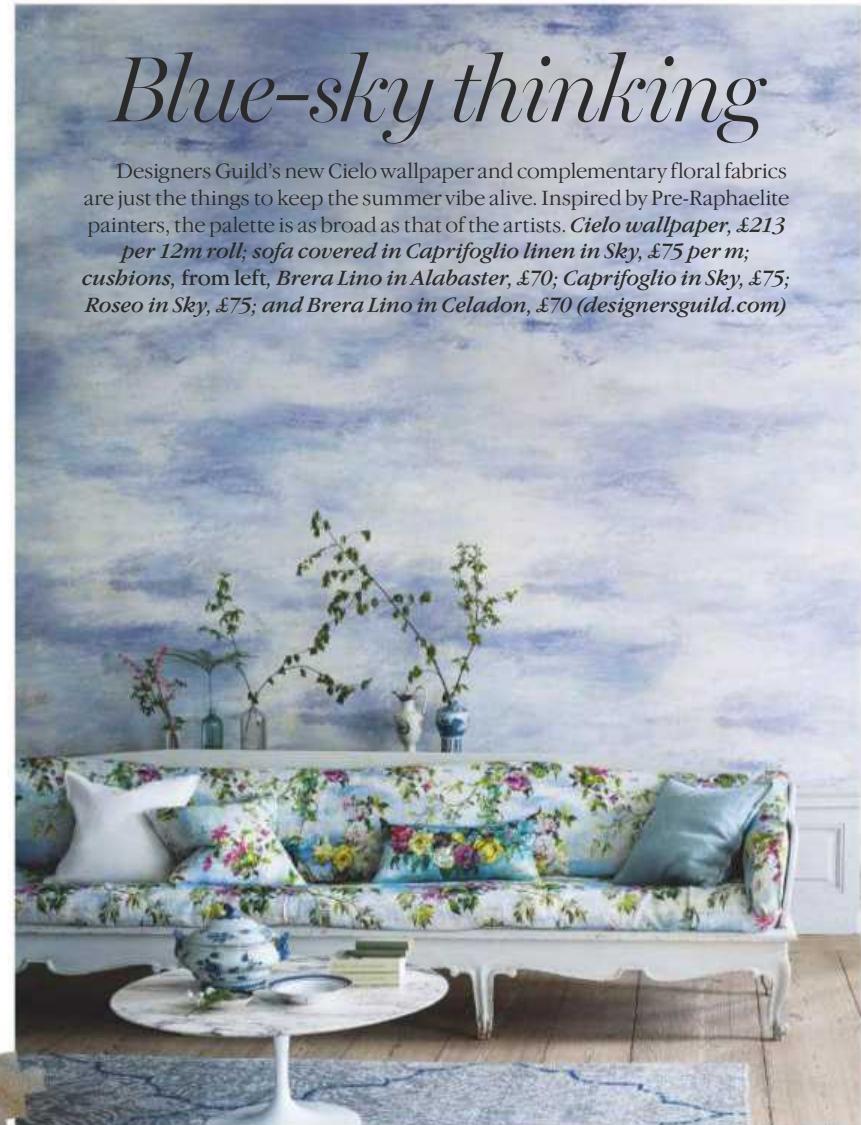
This neo-baroque Thea design in Teal from BHS is a stunner and spot-on for a rustic or modern pad.

£280 (bhs.co.uk)



Livingetc SWATCH WATCH

Dedar's modern, tweed-inspired cotton-mix Chérie in Col. 5 (£156.50 per m, dedar.com) will bring haute couture to your home. It would look great upholstering a special chair. For cushions, add a softer touch by teaming it with Clarke & Clarke's viscose-cotton-mix Antico Aqua (£35 per sq m, clarke-clarke.co.uk) from the Palladio collection.



Blue-sky thinking

Designers Guild's new Cielo wallpaper and complementary floral fabrics are just the things to keep the summer vibe alive. Inspired by Pre-Raphaelite painters, the palette is as broad as that of the artists. *Cielo wallpaper, £213 per 12m roll; sofa covered in Caprifoglio linen in Sky, £75 per m; cushions, from left, Brera Lino in Alabaster, £70; Caprifoglio in Sky, £75; Roseo in Sky, £75; and Brera Lino in Celadon, £70 (designersguild.com)*

SPACE CRAFT

Gallotti&Radice's futuristic Haumea coffee table by Massimo Castagna looks ready to beam you back to the mother ship. It comes in two sizes with a bronze, black or rust-lacquered wood base and glass top. From £1,236 (gallottiradice.it)





Back to basics

Queen of contemporary style Ilse Crawford has joined forces with Ikea to create Sinnerlig, a wide range of furniture and accessories produced from natural materials. 'The more digital our lives become, the more we crave the physical,' she says, declaring her aim is to 'get human qualities such as warmth, well-being and care into the end product.' Hence lots of wood and cork have been combined to 'engage the senses'. *Cork and steel dining table, £250; cork and steel stools, £50 each; and bamboo pendants, £40 each (ikea.com)*



Cocktail hour

Drinks cabinets are having a moment and M&S is on the case. The Carraway is elegant and practical, with painted wood doors that swing open to reveal curved storage areas housed within. Cheers! £599 (marksandspencer.com)



GLITTER BUG

Sophia Webster's circus-themed autumn/winter 2015 collection was also influenced by Victor Vasarely's optical illusions. And we can see that inspiration in her crazy and colourful glitter Riko high-tops, which are sure to put a spring in your step on dull days. £295 (sophia-webster.com)



TOP SHELF

Cattelan Italia's ingenious Giotto bookcase by Andrea Lucatello resembles a set of ladders, with its solid Canaletto walnut frame and shelves in lacquered wood. A great focal point and a handy display for books and knick-knacks. £2,349 (interiorsupply.co.uk)



SLEEP EASY

Button & Sprung's Rose double divan fits the bill for a cosy bed suitable for longer autumn nights. This version has a headboard upholstered in Saga cotton velour by Zimmer + Rohde – other fabrics are available. From £895, excluding mattress and headboard; £2,200 as shown, excluding mattress (buttonandsprung.com)

FOCUS/15

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DESIGN CRUSH

*This month, we're lusting after...***Farrow & Ball**

CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT
Feather Grass wallpaper, £110 per 10m roll; Mouse's Back; Arsenic; and Elephant's Breath estate emulsions, all £38 for 2.5L, Farrow & Ball

USP... Mention the words Farrow & Ball and chances are names such as Elephant's Breath and Dead Salmon spring to mind. Since the early Nineties, the paint company synonymous with quirky evocative nomenclature has been the premium brand for quality emulsions and eggshells.

THE LOWDOWN... Established in Dorset in 1946 by John Farrow and Richard Ball, the company initially targeted trade customers, such as Ford Motors. With consumer interest in interior design escalating, F&B tapped into this change brilliantly, producing paint shades that felt unique, premium and worth obsessing over. Today, it offers 132 paint shades and 320 wallpapers distributed in 67 countries worldwide.

WHY WE LOVE IT... Besides the evocative colour names? In practical terms, such an extensive palette means it's possible to find colours that work in any setting – from classic or modern, inside or out. At **Livingetc**, we've run the full gamut on decorating shoots over the years, painting halls in Cornforth White, walls in Rectory Red and kitchens in Calamine, all chosen to illustrate the palette's chameleon-like ability to both blend in and pack a style punch. And who hasn't mulled over the subtle differences between Railings and Downpipe (before smiling knowingly at the various pin-accurate YouTube spoofs mocking said obsession)?

NEED TO KNOW... If you're on the hunt for ideas, check out the informative Lunch Club events held with Joa Studholme, F&B's colour consultant. Sign up on the website.

STAR BUY... Look out for the new wallpaper collection launching on 7 September, which comprises three designs – Feather Grass, Hornbean and Blotsma – all inspired by F&B's Dorset roots.

For more info, visit farrow-ball.com

Dish of the day

For fun, relaxed autumn dining, check out Laura Ashley's earthenware Tomato dish, available from September. It's both kitsch and useful – so serve with a smile... £55 (lauraashley.com)

*Style edit*

The new collection from John Lewis absolutely nails the whole post-recession opulent luxe thing that's been brewing of late. The five-star-hotel touches – cocktail cabinets and chaise longues – all sit happily alongside contemporary pieces, with everything pulled together with jewel-coloured velvets, offset with rich parquet and brass. **Puccini drinks cabinet, £1,999; and large Odyssey sofa, £2,000** (johnlewis.com)

*JOIN THE CUE*

Livingetc LOVES



For those with cash to burn (the rest of us can add it to our 'when-I-win-the-lottery' list), Marc Sadler's T1 crystal pool table for Teckell is a must. The top comes in 24 colours, in cloth designed to replicate the friction of traditional baize. Approx £28,350 (chaplins.co.uk)

Livingetc
LOVES



California calling

Stroll into The Conran Shop this autumn and you could end up riding off on one of Martone Cycling Co's iconic city bikes. Long popular over the pond, they're now available in the UK, bringing us a breezy Southern California vibe. From £995 for this men's model in Pacific Blue (conranshop.co.uk)



BAG ONE!

On the hunt for autumn accessories? Look no further than the rich tones of William & Son's supple calfskin Bruton totes in Pomegranate and Orange. Forming part of the new in-house designed Bruton bag collection, they have been launched to coincide with the recent opening of the company's flagship store in Bruton Street, Mayfair. It-bag status guaranteed... £895 each (williamandson.com)



SPRINKLE OF GENIUS

There's no excuse for house-plant carnage with this copper watering can by Haws.

It's so good-looking, you'll want to keep it on permanent display. It comes with a removable brass rose for a finer spray and is available from new outfit Wood & Meadow, which offers a curated collection inspired by nature. £49 (woodandmeadow.com)

EASTERN TOUCH

With a Chinese design that nods to handmade porcelain, Nina Campbell's elegant Heritage melamine collection is ideal for alfresco dining. And it has the added bonus of being heat-resistant and dishwasher-safe. 16-inch platter, £28; and 11-inch plate, £12 (ninacampbell.com)



Bedroom bliss

As part of an ongoing collaboration with luxury British bedmaker Vispring, French designer Terence Mesquich Jacquemin has created a collection of 81 luxury fabrics to cover the company's bespoke headboards and divans. As Monsieur Jacquemin explains, he has 'sourced the fabrics – British wool, Scottish leather, Italian velvet and Belgian linen – from the best mills' in order to guarantee the creation of a stylish, comfortable bedroom scheme. *Herald Superb* king-size mattress with *Prestige* divan, £4,625; and *Muses* headboard covered in *Tick* fabric 2057, £1,440 (vispring.co.uk)



ARMANI / Roca

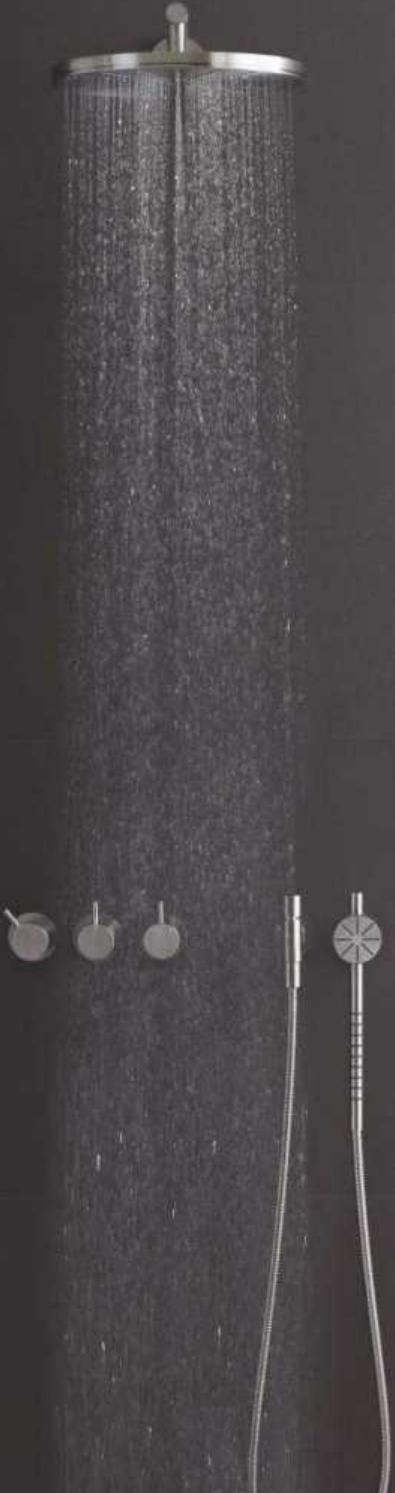
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LOVES


High flyer

Designed in 1975 by Meinhard von Gerkan for the VIP lounge of Berlin's Tegel Airport, Walter Knoll's Berlin chair is about to be re-issued. A classic combo of steel and supple leather, it will be available from late August.

Approx £2,270 (walterknoll.de)



Boudoir bliss

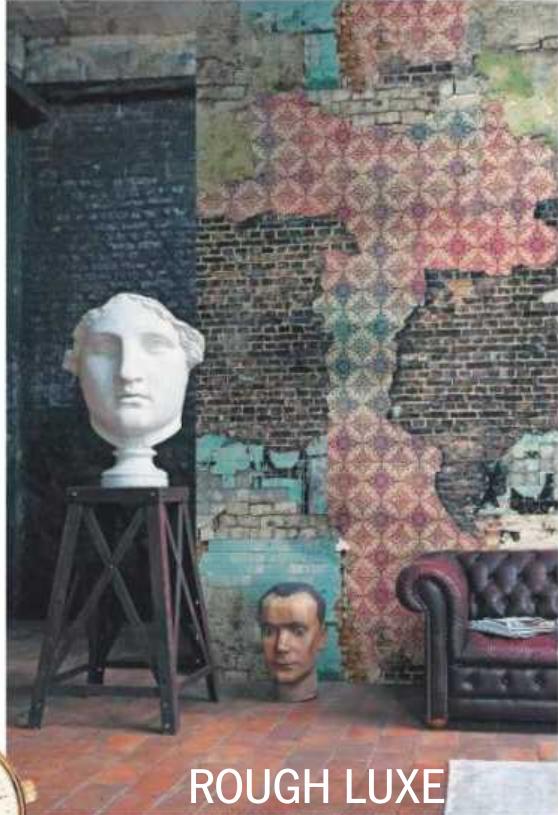
Snazzy new bed linen is the sure-fire way to revamp your sleep zone. Harlequin + Bedeck's Paradise design in Lagoon, a digitally printed interpretation of tropical flora and fauna, adapted from Harlequin's eye-catching Amazilia collection, is full of colour, pattern and a little jungle fever. **Double cotton/sateen duvet cover, £95; Oxford cotton/peri**cale pillowcases, £22 each; and cotton cushions, £45 each (bedeckhome.com)



STYLE SAFARI

Animal prints are still in vogue, with plenty more on the horizon for autumn/winter. Next nods to the trend with a smart watch with a faux-ponyskin strap that for all the world looks just like leopard.

Team with a matching coat and hat at your peril... £24 (next.co.uk)



ROUGH LUXE

Looking for a clever and speedy way to introduce an industrial vibe? This amazing Warehouse Brick Wall panel by DesResDesign may just fit the bill. The imagery is digitally printed on to high-quality vinyl paper with an embossed surface that resembles the texture of linen and is colourfast and washable.

£313 (desresdesign.co.uk)



METAL GURU

Copper adds a touch of warmth, however sparingly you use it. House of Fraser's Casa Couture collection features gorgeous metallic accessories, which can be used en masse or as accent notes – **Livingetc** loves these Liliana pendants. £150 each (houseoffraser.co.uk)



SOOTHE SILHOUETTE

This lamp is a stylish piece of art by day, but it's at night that it comes into its own, providing just enough illumination to feed or change a baby, or help settle an older child.

The intricate laser-cut design is backed with vellum and can be framed in other colours to suit any décor. £70 (noahandthebear.com)



Canine chic

Ensure your pooch is as well-dressed and warm as you this autumn by treating them to a fashion-forward Tulla cashmere dog sweater from Ruby Rufus. Available online from late August. £85 (rubyrufus.com)

Relax in style

A spacious, modern interior cries out for a large-scale sofa/chaise with long, low, lean lines and plenty of modular versatility. Arlo &

Jacob's Philo Chaise Sofa, upholstered in this warm wool/chenille-mix in Graffiti Birch, is smart yet comfy, with wraparound seat cushions and sabre arms to nod off on. **From £1,955**

(arloandjacob.com)



ONE TO WATCH... Get the lowdown on a future design star



CLOCKWISE FROM LEFT The Pineapple Cliché wallpaper, £55 per 10m roll; Jungle Jungle linen cushion cover with tassel fringing, £50; and chair upholstered in Vintage Leopard cotton hopsack, £48 per m, all Jessica Russell Flint



Jessica Russell Flint

WHO? Lifelong doodler Jessica became an illustrator after graduating from Central Saint Martins. An interiors label followed in May 2013.

WHY? Her unique style captures quirky character traits through clever use of colour and texture. Jessica's wide range of interiors products are now available in more than 40 shops worldwide.

WHERE DO YOU FIND ARTISTIC INSPIRATION?

'Life... Friends... Humour. The expression in animals' eyes and the textures of their feathers or skins are hugely inspirational. Different surfaces always fascinate me – I'm constantly snapping leaves and plants on my iPhone and using them in projects.'

YOUR MOTTO IS 'CAN YOU SEE BEYOND THE END OF YOUR NOSE?' HOW DOES THAT PLAY OUT?

'It's the ability to see past the mundane, to laugh at the hilarity of certain situations and to see the bigger picture.'

WHAT DOES YOUR BESPOKE SERVICE OFFER?

'I can produce fabrics and wallpapers to order through my website. A client can choose a design and ask for any item to be upholstered, from a piece of vintage furniture to a stylish dog bed.'

WHAT'S NEXT?

'I've also just completed an exclusive range of gift wrap and cards, which is being launched in Harrods from September and Christmas decorations are available from October. Watch this space!'

Learn more about Jessica's work at jessicarussellflint.co.uk

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Building BLOCKS

The rule-breaking trend of the Eighties is back for 2015 in a blaze of colour-clashing glory – it's time to say *ciao* to the Memphis movement. One of the most ground-breaking styles to come out of Milan, Memphis was a revolt against minimalism, opting instead for bold shades, dazzling geometrics and gravity-defying angles. This year, a wave of non-conformist design swept down the spring/summer catwalk: Roksanda Ilincic teamed fluoro-brights with sculptural silhouettes, while Loewe's runway was filled with blocks of uneven colour. Homeware also ignores convention by combining vibrant hues and uncomplicated shapes. Seletti's Bauchair slots the look together and Darkroom's So Sottsass plate is a homage to Ettore, father of the Memphis look. *Bravi!*

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LOUIS
POULSEN
PH5
PENDANT
LIGHT

In 2008, the classic PH5 pendant celebrated its 50th anniversary with the release of the vibrant-coloured PH50. Then, in 2013, to echo contemporary pastel hues and complement modern surfaces, the PH5 was given this matt finish. **PH5 aluminium pendant in Pale Rose and Green, £510, Poul Henningsen for Louis Poulsen at Aram Store**



EILEEN
GRAY
E1027
ADJUSTABLE
TABLE

Originally made in 1927, the adjustable steel and glass side table was re-released earlier this year in a new Matt Black finish with three variants of glass top. **E1027 adjustable table in Matt Black lacquered tubular frame with clear glass, from £487, Eileen Gray for Aram Store**



KNOLL
WASSILY
CHAIR

Marcel Breuer designed the first tubular-steel chair in 1925 while he was an apprentice at Bauhaus. It was initially upholstered in canvas, but the leather version introduced in 1950 is the most recognisable. To reintroduce the original, Knoll once again released the chair with canvas upholstery in 2013. **Wassily canvas and tubular-steel chair, £1,212, Marcel Breuer for Knoll at The Conran Shop**

THE EDITED CHOICE

Design classics rebooted

Iconic pieces cut a dash with a sleek upgrade

Research – Jesse Harris



ERCOL
LOVE
SEAT

The first Love seat was launched in 1956 as part of the Windsor collection – with its curved seat back and spindle verticals, it's one of the company's most iconic pieces. More recently, British designer Margaret Howell teamed up with Ercol to relaunch the collection – in 2009, the Love seat was given this dip-dye, ombré paint effect. **Originals elm and beech Love seat, £735, Lucian Ercolani for Ercol**



ALESSI
JUICY
SALIF

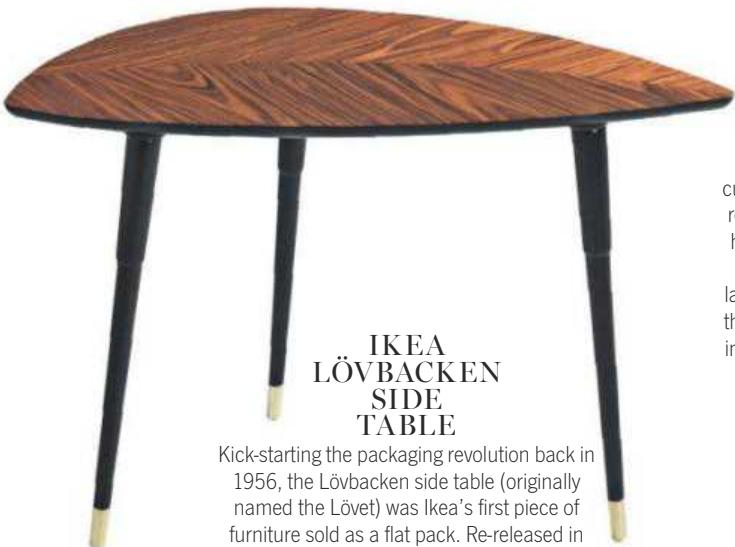
A quintessential design from 1990, the Juicy Salif juicer celebrated its 25th birthday at this year's Salone del Mobile in Milan with a limited-edition run of 299 cast-bronze versions. **Juicy Salif juicer in Bronze, £850, Philippe Starck for Alessi**



DUALIT
TOASTER

To commemorate its 70th anniversary, Brit stalwart Dualit has designed a limited edition of its famous toaster. This four-slice model features key elements from classic designs, ranging from the sleek shape of the Forties originals to 2015's energy-saving electrics. **Brass four-slice toaster, £199.15, Dualit**





IKEA LÖVBACKEN SIDE TABLE

Kick-starting the packaging revolution back in 1956, the Lövbacken side table (originally named the Lövet) was Ikea's first piece of furniture sold as a flat pack. Re-released in 2013, it is faithful to the original design, right down to its measurements. Lövbacken poplar-veneer side table, £40, Ikea



ANGLEPOISE ORIGINAL 1227 DESK LAMP

Designed by George Carwardine and first released in 1935, the Original 1227 desk lamp has been revamped in collaboration with many distinguished designers over its 80-year history. For 2015, Anglepoise launched a version using Eley Kishimoto patterns, inspired by the Grade II-listed Centre Point building in London. Original 1227 desk lamp Central Link pattern edition, from £200, George Carwardine and Eley Kishimoto for Centre Point at Anglepoise



JEAN PROUVÉ BUREAU DESK

Having made its debut back in 1946, the Bureau was re-released by Vitra in 2014 in partnership with G-Star RAW as part of a larger Prouvé Raw office range. The materials used pay tribute to the origins of the furnishings and the bygone industrial age. Bureau Métallique melamine and metal desk, from £3,070, Jean Prouvé in partnership with G-Star RAW for Vitra

THONET RANGE 214 BENTWOOD CHAIR

Embodying the spirit of Viennese café culture, Thonet's coffee house chair was first released in 1859; in 1980, the Knot version hit the shops; while a Pure Materials (using locally sourced wood) collection was launched this year. The design is considered the most successful mass-produced product in history. Bentwood 214K Knot beech chair, from £1,035, Michael Thonet for Thonet



FRITZ HANSEN SERIES 7 CHAIR

To celebrate the 60th anniversary of this iconic Fritz Hansen design, two special editions have just been released. The Series 7, which first came out in 1955, is now available in Pale Pink with gold-plated legs, left, or Dark Blue with powder-coated legs. Series 7 model 3107 ash and steel chair, £523, Arne Jacobsen for Fritz Hansen at Harrods



LE CREUSET CASSEROLE

The renowned French cookware company has reissued the Elysees Yellow casserole to mark its 60th anniversary. This colourway was first introduced in 1955 – Marilyn Monroe owned a set in the bright hue that was later sold at Christie's. Bloom Signature cast-iron casserole, from £145, Le Creuset



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Eigen coat stand, £99, Leonhard Pfeifer for House by John Lewis



Match coat stand, £720, Studio Baag for Mogg at Go Modern



Steelwood coat stand, £391, Ronan and Erwan Bouroullec for Magis at Utility

THE EDITED CHOICE

Wooden coat stands

Hacked off with hallway clutter?
Clear the decks with these designs



PS 2014 coat stand, £40, Ebba Strandmark for Ikea



Flamingo coat stand, £1,396, Gino Carollo for Porada

Research – Jesse Harris



Jux coat stand, £160, Habitat



Bark coat stand, £432, Pols Potten at Made in Design



Pierrot coat stand, £165, Pauline Deltour for Alessi

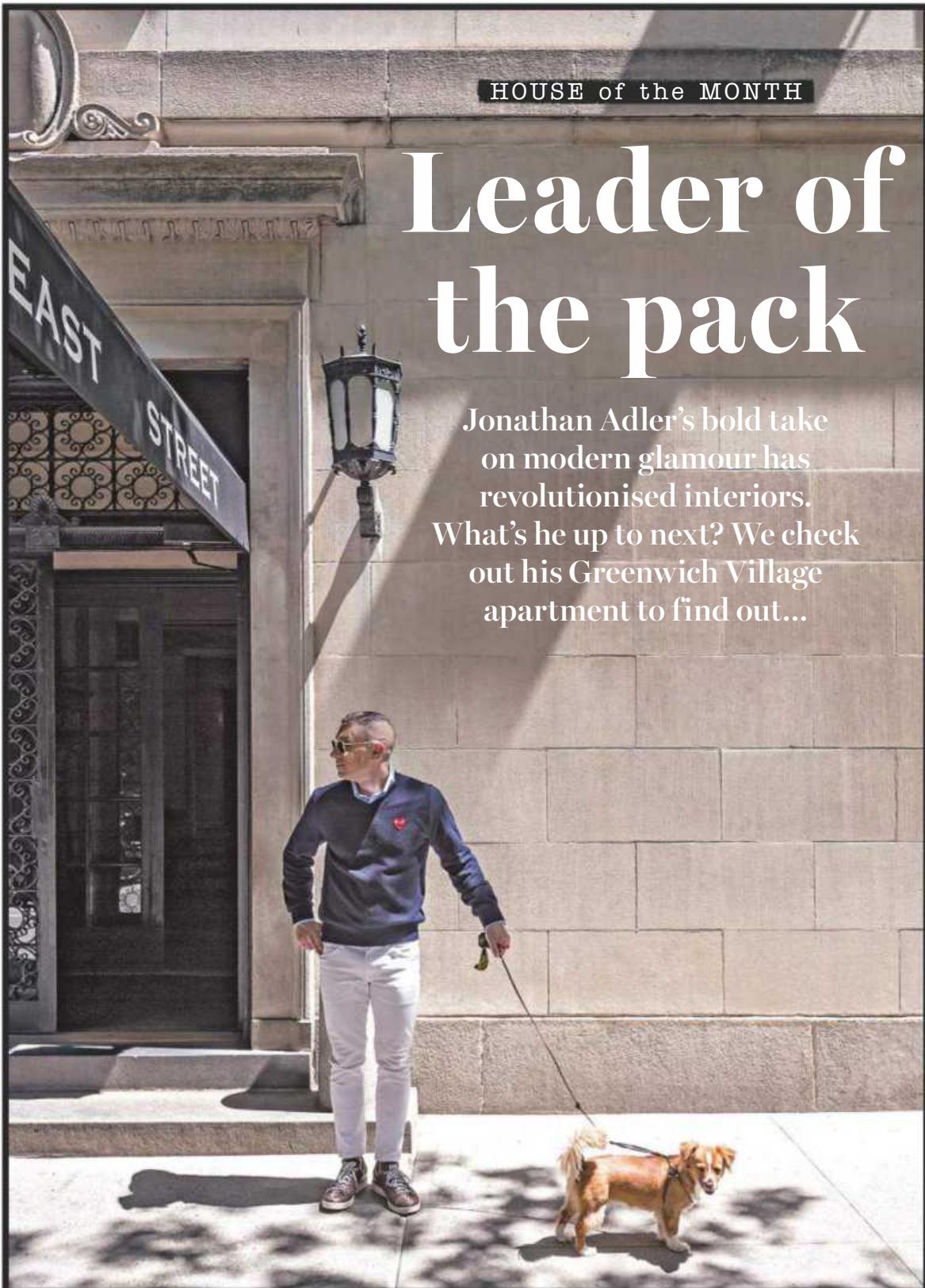


do re mi sofa.com

HOUSE of the MONTH

Leader of the pack

Jonathan Adler's bold take on modern glamour has revolutionised interiors. What's he up to next? We check out his Greenwich Village apartment to find out...



Photography – Matthew Williams
Styling – Alexa Hotz
Words – Andréa Childs



Home profile

THE OWNERS Designer Jonathan Adler, his husband Simon Doonan, a writer and creative ambassador for Barneys New York, and their rescue dog FoxyLady.

THE PROPERTY A duplex apartment in Greenwich Village, New York. The entrance floor has a living room, TV den, kitchen, dining room, office, bathroom and guest bedroom with en-suite bathroom. Upstairs, there's the master bedroom with en-suite bathroom.

HALLWAY

The entrance to the apartment provides a sneak glimpse of what's to come: eclectic furnishings, statement lighting and bold colours set against an all-white background.

GET THE LOOK The orange lacquer Turner cabinet, gold bird figurines and cushion are all by Jonathan Adler. The Seventies pendant light is by Gaetano Sciolari.





LIVING ROOM

What makes Jonathan's 'unbridled, eclectic' style work? The quiet rigour of a restricted colour palette (blue, green, orange) and the repetition of key motifs (here's looking at you...).

GET THE LOOK The Giant Sputnik chandelier, turquoise Baxter sofa, green Peking sofa, Big Hair Bob cushion, giant brass horn and Lucite obelisks are all by Jonathan Adler. The black and white Tulip chair is by Eero Saarinen for Knoll. The round chrome table is by Xavier Feal. The Michael Jackson head was a flea-market find. The framed eyes artworks are by American artist John-Paul Philippe. The wall lights above the doorway are by Remo Saraceni. The artwork above the mantelpiece is by Geoff McFetridge. The eyes in the fireplace were painted by Danny Balgley.

'My motto is more, more, more!'



DINING ROOM →

FIREPLACE DETAIL

'We're both visual thrill-seekers – nothing is "blah"', says Jonathan. 'What's important, though, is that everything we have means something to us. We surround ourselves with art made by friends or collections we love.'

GET THE LOOK The glass heads are vintage Italian. The gold boot is a vintage find from Palm Beach and the evil eyes on the wall are from Mexico.

'This giant foot is really making my choppers tingle at the moment!' says Jonathan. It certainly adds a grounded touch to the lofty space. **GET THE LOOK** The dining table is by George Nelson. The Richard Schultz chairs are covered in Double Triangles fabric by Alexander Girard for Maharam. The Bridget rug and giant lucite hand are by Jonathan Adler. The globe lights are custom made. The curtains are from American interiors specialist Kravet. The giant foot is by Gaetano Pesce.

says designer, potter and tastemaker Jonathan Adler, laughing. 'Life is short, so do more, make more, have more...' Yes, the man synonymous with a new kind of American glamour – refined, luxe, yet tongue-in-cheek risqué (those Prozac-labelled cookie jars and embroidered 'Lust' cushions) – isn't renowned for his restrained aesthetic. Yet, there's the heart of a minimalist quietly beating beneath his brash, bold statements. 'When I design objects, I make them as pared down as possible,' he says. 'It's only when you put them all together that the room explodes!'

Jonathan's New York apartment, which he shares with his equally creative husband Simon Doonan (who designed the window displays at Barneys New York for 25 years before becoming the store's creative ambassador), is a riot of colour, surfaces, details and stuff. 'When I decorate for other people, I tend to be a lot more muted,' says Jonathan. 'For myself, it's eclectic and unbridled. My poor husband is very patient, but we're both visual thrill-seekers. We have a shared sensibility and a high tolerance for visual stimuli. But the décor is all mine. Simon has always given me free reign just to go for it...'

What makes it work is Jonathan's ability to put the brakes on where it's needed, so the furnishings may be bright, but the walls, ceilings and floors are white. The 'wowzer' lights draw the eye up to the ornate vaulted ceilings. The super-long drapes emphasise the tall windows. 'This building was designed at the beginning of the 20th century and the architecture is really grand. We wanted to keep the bones of the place quite true, while creating a flexible space in which I can play,' explains Jonathan. 'This is our home, but it's also where I road-test all of my designs. I move things around; I'll bring home a new chair to check the seat is at the right height. As a designer, I need to live with my products, to sit on the furniture and touch the ceramics, so this is really a snapshot of a moment. It could all look different again next week!'

It sounds ephemeral, even transient, but as always with Jonathan, things aren't necessarily what they seem. The couple have lived here for nearly 20 years. Simon originally owned a one-bedroom apartment in the building. After meeting on a blind date, Jonathan moved in with him and then bought the adjoining apartment when it came up for sale a few years later. They knocked the two properties together to create this 2,500 sq ft living space. 'By New York standards, it's big, but we've organised it so that we use every inch,' says Jonathan. 'We entertain a lot – not New York business entertaining, but our random bunch of bohemian ne'er-do-well friends. We have brekky in the dining room every morning. We're in the living room every day for our regular game of Ping-Pong, in which I always vanquish Simon. And, of course, the TV den never goes unused. Our tastes are very grim – we watch murder documentaries.' (This from the man who won't allow the colour mauve in the house 'because I find it sad').

Jonathan's palette is a slightly out-of-whack mix of burnt umber and chartreuse, Jaffa orange and celestial blue. 'I like blue that's blue, orange that's orange, green that's green,' he says excitedly. It's the clarity and tonality of these shades that hang the look together – colours picked up and repeated from room to room, zigzags and houndstooth checks adding a mod touch to monochrome. 'Growing up, I had a fab grandmother – a kind of eccentric *Auntie Mame* character – and her house was filled with unexpected bits and bobs,' says Jonathan. 'It stimulated my imagination and I hope that's what this pad does.'

Rest assured, our minds are blown...
To shop Jonathan Adler's designs, visit uk.jonathanadler.com



Home truths

WHAT'S YOUR SECRET TALENT?

Simon: I'm surprisingly sportif.

Didn't see that coming, did you?

WHO WOULD PLAY YOU IN A

FILM? *Simon:* Eddie Redmayne or Enrique Iglesias, who don't look remotely like me, but best to go with somebody cute, right?

Jonathan: vintage Jean-Paul Belmondo.

WHAT'S YOUR BIGGEST FEAR?

Jonathan: I'm pretty fearless.

FAVOURITE FANCY-DRESS

COSTUME? *Simon:* Years ago, I shared a studio with Susan Nininger, who designed Whitney Houston's stage ensembles in *The Bodyguard*. Susan lent me a fab, light-up mega-costume. Very Leigh Bowery, before Leigh Bowery, with a huge battery pack. #hernia.

EXTROVERT OR INTROVERT?

Jonathan: More introverted than you would think. *Simon:* If you pay me enough, I'll do anything.

WHAT DO YOU SING IN THE SHOWER? *Jonathan:* Cheerleader by Omi. *Simon:* Nasty Girl by Vanity 6.

WHERE DO YOU GO TO FIND PEACE? *Simon:* We paddleboard on Shelter Island. We're going to train Foxy lady to sit on the board.



'I like to road-test and move my things round. This could all look different next week!'



LIVING ROOM

The Ed Paschke painting was originally commissioned for the Playboy Mansion. Now, it overlooks this playful corner, complete with mod-style cushions and a table supported by ram heads.

GET THE LOOK The Aries cocktail table, printed cushions and rug are all by Jonathan Adler.

DINING ROOM ↑ DETAIL

'We've used every inch of the apartment,' says Jonathan. That includes the margins of the main spaces, like this careful arrangement on one side of the dining room. The result: every casual glance turns into a must-see moment.

GET THE LOOK The artwork is by Sante Graziani. The glass-top table is by Willy Doro.

MASTER BEDROOM ↑

Jonathan's mix-and-match style turns the usual bed-linen-headboard combo into something completely out of the ordinary, with nautical rope motifs vying for attention with baroque patterning.

GET THE LOOK The slate Grasscloth wallpaper, Templeton bed and Southampton duvet are all by Jonathan Adler. The rug is by David Hicks. The stools are vintage finds. The Harmon Manor II orange fabric is by Schumacher.





← BATHROOM

'I've always loved the throw-it-all-togetherness of English decorating and I think that's what this bathroom has,' says Jonathan. The brass H hung on the wall is a vintage Hermès display from Barneys New York.

GET THE LOOK The oversized bulb light and brass table in the shower are vintage finds.

Livingetc loves
PENDANT LIGHTS that add a 'pow' to every room.

THE PARED-BACK, all-white décor that lets the furnishings shout out loud.

TONGUE-IN-CHEEK STYLING that gets a giggle out of the glamorous setting.

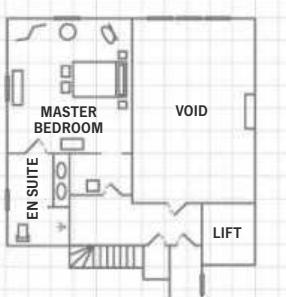
FLASHES OF BRASS, chrome and Lucite to add a gleam to the luxe surfaces.

STROBING MONOCHROME prints paired with colour-block fabrics.

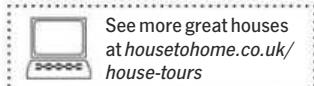
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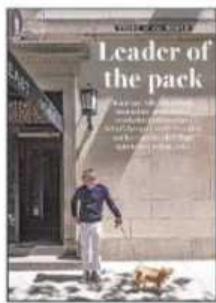


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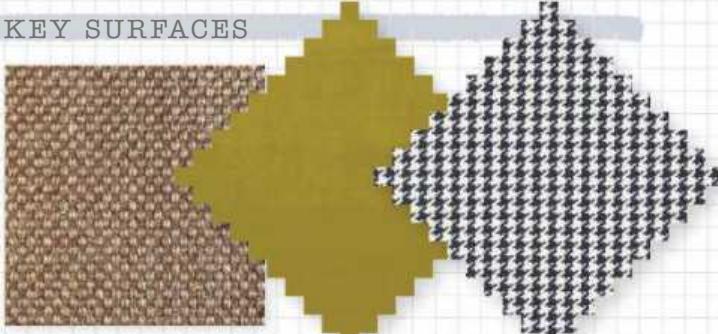




IDEAS to STEAL

Bright accents, gold metallics and patterns all pop against a pristine white canvas

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Aztec sisal **floor covering** in Alabaster, £100 per sq m, Crucial Trading; Forenza 7558/29 **cotton** in Palm, £57 per m, Romo; and Caraval FRL2320/02 houndstooth **cotton**, £60 per m, Ralph Lauren Home at Designers Guild



KEY FEATURE Strap-work ceiling

Ornamental plasterwork, as seen on the barrel vault ceiling in Jonathan's dining room, dates back to the 16th century and can be found in many fine period homes. The designer cleverly draws attention to it with show-stopping light fittings, then echoes the pattern in his rugs. Hayles & Howe (haylesandhowe.co.uk) specialises in all kinds of strap-work ceilings – prices will depend on the job, including where the project is, size, ornament, cornice, etc, but as a guide, expect to pay approx £500 per sq m.

KEY PRODUCTS



1 Bubbles & Bottles **ornaments**, £265 for a set of four, Pols

Potten at Heal's 2 **Skyline brass pendant**, from £1,185, Folkform

for Orsjo at Twentytwentyone 3 **Collier mirror**, £1,500, Fornasetti

at Amara 4 **Be Jeweled Zebra cushion**, £473.52, Casahito

5 **Loop wool rug**, £299, Lindsey Lang at Made.com 6 **Nolan**

aluminium side table, £169, West Elm 7 **Brooklyn Luxe Velvet**

sofa in Turquoise, £1,850, Graham and Green





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THE WONDERFUL EVERYDAY



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Charles & Tim
Fever-Tree Co-Founders



DECORATING focus...

In the NAVY

With its deep tones and classic good looks, this most iconic of colours can be updated in myriad cool ways

Photography – Paul Raeside
Styling – Hannah Franklin

Style storm

Layer dark textiles with weathered textures and let the shade wash over you in waves.

WALLS Bespoke Storm **wallpaper**, from £42 per sq m, 55MAX. **Woodwork** painted in Basalt intelligent exterior eggshell, £58 for 2.5l, Little Greene. **FURNITURE** Bench Two in ash and walnut, £695, Another Country; **back rest** made in Fade K5115/12 cotton-mix in Nightshadow, £59.50 per m, Kirkby Design; and **seat pad** made in Velours Tresse 17229-004 velvet in Iris, £300 per m, Dominique Kieffer at Rubelli. Valje **wall cabinets**, £17 each, Ikea; painted in Night Blue gloss enamel, £3.42 for 59ml, Valspar at B&Q. **FLOORING** Furnace tiles in Iron, £84.99 per sq m, Fired Earth. **DETAILS** Copper tube, £5.96 for 3m, B&Q. Shades Blue neon **lamp**, £100, Graham and Green. Cirro **tumblers**, £45 for a set of four, LSA International. Selena **napkin**, approx £8.75, Caravane. Blot **tableware**, from £8; and Polka **tableware**, from £8, Habitat.



Table manners

Pair printed and moiré velvets for a sumptuous look. Embossed details add a tactile edge.

FURNITURE Washington Skeleton **side chair** and Beck **dining table**, for details, see *opposite*. **DETAILS** Table runner made in Jackson 7574/03 printed velvet in Indigo, £110 per m, Black Edition by Romo; and Quartz J766F-05 moiré velvet in Indigo, £65 per m, Jane Churchill at Colefax and Fowler; with handmade copper buttons, approx £8 for a pack of six, McDaddio at Etsy. Bleu de Four **dinner plate**, £39; and Bleu de Four **side plate**, £29, The Conran Shop. Bronze Age **cutlery**, £28 for a five-piece setting, Anthropologie. Selena **napkin**, as before. Model **tree**, £4.08 for a pack of five, 4DModelshop. Copper **coaster**, £24 for a set of four, MiaFleur.



Highly polished

Lift an all-navy scheme with metallic highlights. Copper and blue make a winning combination...

WALLS Bespoke Storm **wallpaper** and painted **woodwork**, as before. Botticino PDG640/12 **wallpaper** in Indigo, £79 per 10m roll, Designers Guild. **FURNITURE** Bench Two, as before. Washington Skeleton aluminium **side chair** in Copper, £1,668, David Adjaye for Knoll. Beck resin **dining table**, £4,200, OLY Furniture at Paolo Moschino for Nicholas Haslam. Real Good copper-plated **chair**, £295, Blu Dot at Heal's. Copper **stool**, £68, Madam Stoltz at MiaFleur. **FLOORING** Furnace tiles, as before. **DETAILS** Drum pendant, £461.58, Heathfield & Co; covered in Chloe Z345/03 acrylic-mix in Lapis, £110 per m, Zinc Textile. Tri-Ply copper **pans**, from £15 each; copper **ice bucket**, £15, and copper **champagne bucket**, £12, all Sainsbury's. Polka **tableware** and **table runner**, as before.



Heat wave

Create a hazy Mediterranean feel with organic shapes and lashings of white.

WALLS Painted in Woad Blue matt emulsion, £35.50 for 2.5l, Fired Earth. **WINDOW** Curtains made in, *top*, Fathom linen in Indigo, £110 per m, Christopher Farr Cloth; and *bottom*, Sahara II K5044/127 cotton in Porcelain, £27.50 per m, Kirkby Design. **Pompoms** made with Premium acrylic yarn, £2.20 per ball, the Women's Institute at Hobbycraft. **FURNITURE** Lavenham three-seater sofa in Sanderson linen, £4,595, The Conran Shop; upholstered in, *back rest*, Loop 120197 cotton in Ink, £28 per m, Scion; and, *seat cushions*, Mainmast FRL2312/02 cotton in Admiral, £55 per m, Ralph Lauren for Designers Guild. Cadence faux-marble and steel **coffee table**, £581; and Cadence **side table**, £369, Amantine Chhor & Aïssa Logerot for Ligne Roset. **FLOOR** Venlo wool **rug**, £199, Made.com. **DETAILS** Beaded wood **chandelier**, £950, Rockett St George. **Bolster cushion** made in Comoros 1040098898 cotton-mix, £170 per m, Travers at Zimmer + Rohde. Cirro **mug**, £36 for a set of four, LSA International. **Candles**, from £1.50 each, Ikea.



Double up

Contrast spots and stripes on modern upholstery. Keep the tones similar for a subtle effect.

WALLS As before. **WINDOW** Curtains, as before. **FURNITURE** Fossil armchair, £2,650, Paolo Moschino for Nicholas Haslam; upholstered in, *back rest*, Amlapura F2119/01 cotton in Cobalt, £43 per m, Designers Guild; and, *seat pad*, Rick Rack linen in Indigo, £140 per m, Kit Kemp for Christopher Farr Cloth.

DETAILS Four Seasons Oval lacquered-wood **mirror**, £885, Opera Design for Porada. Matisse Cut-Out **postcards**, from a selection, Tate Modern Shop. **Pebbles**, £7.92; painted in Night Blue gloss enamel, as before. Cirro **mug**, as before. Ita agate **platter** in Azure, £140, Anna New York at Amara.



Bust a move

Treat classical statuary to a contemporary makeover with an electrifying coat of paint.

WALL Robinson RM 900-01 raffia wall covering, £167.80 per linear m, Elitis at Abbott & Boyd. **FURNITURE** Pablo console table, for details, see opposite. **FLOOR** Bespoke stair runner, for details, see opposite. **DETAILS** Blot plates, as before. Banister handrail wrapped in Nia 131309 cut velvet, £77 per m, Harlequin. Glass Knot, £54, West Elm. Tumbling vase, £28, OKA. Stone bust, £28, MiaFleur. Tropics leather and cotton choker, on bust, £120, Lyn & Tony at Darkroom. King Ludwig plaster bust, £606, Stevensons of Norwich; painted in Night Blue gloss enamel, as before. Zik 2.0 leather headphones, £299.99, Parrot at Selfridges. Painted canvas bag, £30, French Connection.



Waterfall

Let the marine tones of a bespoke stair runner cascade down to form a serene pool on the floor.

WALLS Robinson wall covering, as before. **Woodwork** painted in Basalt eggshell, as before. **FURNITURE** Pablo gesso-finished wood **console table**, £1,676, Julian Chichester. **Mesa concrete side table**, in living room, £169, West Elm. **FLOOR** Bespoke Tapis D'Avignon felt **stair runner** in Lapis, £190 per linear m, Roger Oates. **DETAILS** Blue White art print, in living room, from £180, Ellsworth Kelly at 55MAX. Blot **plates**, banister **handrail**, glass knot and **bust**, all as before. Clip-on **bird**, £2.50, Rockett St George.



Jungle fever

Treat your walls to a triple dose of blue – ranging from lush, oversized palms to luxe crocodile-style prints.

WALLS Top: L'Arbre du Voyageur 77321039 vinyl-backed **wallpaper**, £313.30 for a 204 x 300cm panel, Casamance. Middle: Glitter Jazz GLJ24 **display fabric** in Blue, £49 per m, Fardis. Bottom: Big Croco VP42329 vinyl-backed **wallpaper**, £138.20 per 10m roll, Elitis at Abbott & Boyd. **WINDOW** Curtain made in Princess Sally cotton velvet in Velvet Lagoon, £115 per m, Liberty Art Fabrics collection at Liberty. **FURNITURE** Burdock moleskin double **bedstead**, £545, Button & Sprung; upholstered in Lorimer F6600-17 faux leather, £45 per m, Osborne & Little; and trimmed with PIN018 rayon-mix Lipcord Col. 030, £29 per m, Dedar. Horsehair **screen** in Turquoise Grey and Padded Grey novasuede, £5,532, Ochre. **FLOOR** Bell Twist 25382 wool-mix **carpet** in Windermere Lake, £40 per sq m, Brintons. **DETAILS** Pineapple **ceiling light**, £480, Rockett St George. King-size Perfect **mattress**, £595, Loaf. Charcoal silk **pillowcases**, £65 each, Ginger Lily. Navy double flat cotton **bed sheet**, £30, Dickins & Jones at House of Fraser. **Throw** made in Brae Chambray V3157/05 Jacquard velvet, £54 per m, Villa Nova; and Meltingpot 3452-03 cotton in Aqua, £119 per m, Jean Paul Gaultier for Lelièvre; fringed with Dolce Pom Pom 985-45494-14 wool-mix in Blueberry Pie, £43 per m, Samuel & Sons.



Natural passions

Put the finishing touch to an elegant scheme with a plush Jacquard velvet in rich hues of green and navy.

WALL As before. **FURNITURE** Horsehair **screen**, as before. Bespoke Allegri **ottoman**, £3,260 (plus fabric), The Sofa & Chair Company; upholstered in Mirafiore 30123-002 printed velvet, £174 per m, Rubelli Donghia. **FLOOR** Bell Twist **carpet**, as before. **DETAILS** 3-D Butterfly **wall decorations**, £7.99 for a pack of 24, FiveSeasonStuff at Amazon. Macramé **hanging pot**, £36; and faux-papyrus **stem**, £7.95, Rockett St George. Ceramic **carafe**, £29, West Elm. Resin **lizard**, £19.95, Dwell. Candy glitter **heels**, £105, Carvela at very.co.uk. Vintage **robe**, from a selection, Rokit

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SPACE

SHOP FOCUS *Kids' bedrooms*

Make sure the little ones grow up in style with these fab designs

Research – Jesse Harris

Festival fille



Petite dreamer



Nomadic toddler

Mexico floor cushion, £95, Loaf



Shute bamboo light shade, £25, Habitat



Denim easy chair, £50, George Home



Wood step ladder shelving unit, £129, M&S



Blue Triangles wool kilim rug, £89, Alison Fox for Ferm Living



Indian foam headband, £5.99, Liotouch at Good Toy Shops



Teepee pine cabin bed, £399 (mattress not included), Woood at Cuckooland

World traveller

Livingetc LOVES

Vertigo lamp, £643.95, Constance Guisset for Petite Friture Edition at Smallable



Sammy Screamer motion alarms, £50 each, Bleep Bleeps



Treasure Map cushions (with check back), £58 each, Sanderson

Zebra wool/silk-mix rug, £686, Amy Kent



Giraffe head, £63, Scandi Chic for Mini Eden at MOOD

Alphabet blocks, £45.89, Pat Kim at Areaware

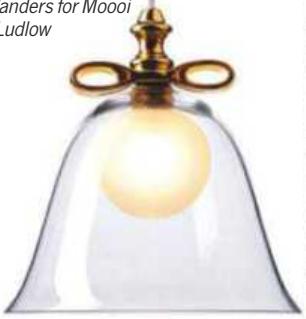


Sparrow walnut toddler bed, from £659 (mattress not included); and Crib conversion panel, £178, Oeuf

Mini blogger



Princess single duvet set, £49, *Snurk at Amara*



Bell Ribbon pendant light, £408, *Marcel Wanders for Moooi at Holloways of Ludlow*

iWood/My First Laptop Toy, £45 (includes chalk), *Donkey Products at The Conran Shop*



Sanderum faux-wool rug, £110, *Ikea*



Doll's house cabinet, £2,695, *Andrew Martin*

Paper flower crown, £12, *Elfie at Selfridges*



Livingetc
LOVES

Valentin brushed-cotton single bed in Taupe, £745 (mattress not included), *sofa.com*

Young creative

3 Tier Blue lamp shade, £15, *Next Home*

Wood work bench, £70, *Melissa & Doug at Hedgehog*



Livingetc
SMART
BUY

Colour Me short pyjamas, from £12, *M&S*



Big Apple faux-wool rug, from £145, *WovenGround*



Pop Up Pinhole camera, £39.99, *Viddy at Firebox*



Doug Kid's House storage unit/desk, £160, *Habitat*



Linus pine bunk bed, £499 (mattresses not included), *Made.com*

Shop for style

Livingetc and Made.com have teamed up to create a series of exclusive furniture and accessories ranges. Check out our second collection – an edit of seductive products for the bedroom



Aldo walnut **dressing table**, £279; and **Mist table light**, £39, Made.com with Livingetc



Aldo **dressing table**, as before; Bergerac **storage stool** in Stone, £99; Bergerac **storage bench** in Stone, £249; and Almere **rug**, £299, all Made.com with Livingetc



Bergerac **storage bed**, for details, see *opposite*; Bergerac **storage bench** as before; Aldo walnut **side table**, £69; Almere **rug**, as before; Ponomia **bed set**; and Ponomia **bed throw**, for details, see *opposite*; and Ponomia **cushion**, £25, all Made.com with Livingetc

*Discover the Made.com with Livingetc collection
at made.com/livingetc*

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Bergerac double **storage bed** in Stone, £749 (mattress not included); Bergerac **storage bench**, as before; Aldo **side table** and Almere **rug**, as before; Mist **pendant shades**, £49 each; Poma **bed set**, from £69; and Poma **bed throw** with pom-poms, £75, all Made.com with Livingetc.

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TREND inspiration



The simple life

This season's homeware teams muted, earthy colours with smooth, curvaceous shapes. It's the art of craft...



Photography - Damian Russell
Styling - Hannah Franklin

RAISE THE BAR

Wood stools in a stripped-back style take their cue from the salvaged look.

T-back mango wood **bar stools** in Burned Wood and Faded Grey, £150 each, French Connection Home. **Long Bench Three** in Beech, £615, Another Country. Clay **pendant**, £350, Folklore. Copper **mirror**, £110, House Junkie. Moped **helmets**, from top, Hedonist, £299; Cortex, £199; and DOPA, £308, all Hedon. Sheepskin **rug**, £55, Rockett St George. For a similar leather Kate Spade New York **handbag**, try Shaw Street Kegan, £495.



GO WITH THE GRAIN

Great from any angle, this coffee table's raw finish lets the wood's natural character shine through.

Colour Wood oak **coffee table**, £648, Scholten & Baijings for Karimoku New Standard at Viaduct. Ottoman leather **armchair**, £1,517, Noé Duchaufour-Lawrance for Ligne Roset. Smoke Tide **light**, £325, Holly's House. Luminance wool **rug**, £595, WovenGround. My Longest **Jigsaw Puzzle**, £25, Londji at The Conran Shop.



LOUNGE LOVER

Simple, stylish, seductive... a streamlined day bed ticks all our boxes.

Fusion leather and oak **day bed**, £2,529, BoConcept. Eco cedar **coffee table**, from £1,050, Riva 1920 at Heal's. Ottoman **armchair**, as before. Cygnus Lycra and metal **floor lamp**, £977, Studio 28 for Calligaris. Workshop Arabescato marble **console table**, £1,700, Magnus Long for The Conran Shop. Colette **mirror**, £135, Next Home. Luminance **rug**, as before. Canyon **vase**, from £55, Abigail Ahern. Thirties pottery **elephant**, £80 for a pair, Lassco. Taupe chenille **throw**, £60, Home Collection at Debenhams.



PURE SCANDI

With its low back and slim proportions, this elegant chair is a mid-century classic.

CH20 Elbow oak and leather **chair**, £643.20, Hans J Wegner for Carl Hansen & Søn. Wilmore oak **dining table**, £699, M&S. Allure fabric and metal **floor lamp**, £758, Studio 28 for Calligaris. Luna **vase**, £85, Kelly Hoppen. Linen **table runners** in Stone Grey and Storm Blue, £28 each, Rowen & Wren. TN-300 analogue **turntable**, £299, Teac at Urban Outfitters. Mounted Fifties **bowling score numbers**, £375, Lassco.



MATCH PLAY

Cool collectables (or burnt offerings) will find a new home in a neatly sealed jar.

Crystal and wood jar, £29.99, Zara Home. Wilmore dining table and table runner, as before. Glass tumblers, £7 each, Broste at Oates & Co. Charcoal purifying stick, £12 for a set of three, Black+Blum. St Mark ash chairs, from £335 each, Martino Gamper for Moroso. Sedimentary Wall mural, in background, £60 per sq m, Surface View.



TEMPTING TERRACOTTA

Who could imagine a garden vase would have such poise? Much too chic to be left outside...

Gardenias terracotta **vase**, £225, Jaime Hayón for BD Barcelona at Chaplins. Double Bubble Solo glass **vase**, £545; and Caja Caja glass **tea light**, £130, Anna Torfs Edition Collection at William & Son. Poker **chips**, £6.99 for a set of 100, Juego at Amazon. Workshop **console table** and Colette **mirror**, as before. *Cowboy Up* framed **print**, £200, Abigail Ahern. Vintage Lee denim **jacket**, £40, Rokit.



TOP TABLE

Sleek yet sturdy, this handsome model will add a refined edge to any occasion.

Wilmore dining table, Long Bench Three and St Mark chairs, all as before. Glass lamp shades, £24 each, Idyll Home. Hand-dyed velvet cushion, from £64, Kirsten Heckermann. Knife and Fork hand-printed wallpaper, on table, £100 each for a 3.5m panel, Tracy Kendall Wallpaper. Bath Stone bowl, £159, Rowen & Wren. Soup bowls, £17.95 each; and dinner plates, £24.50 each, all Wonki Ware at Summerill & Bishop. Maguelon pitcher, £29.95, Jars Céramistes at Aria. Loaves, from a selection, Gail's Artisan Bakery.



CREATURE COMFORT

This cosy chair wraps you up in style.

Santa Monica linen **armchair** in Bianco, £3,332, Jean-Marie Massaud for Poliform. Chrome **bed** and **bed linen**, for details, see *opposite*. Junction **floor lamp**, £185; and Squirrel Cage **bulb**, £23, Heal's. Feroe Motif wool **rug**, from £167, Caravane. **Circles print**, £35, Seventy Tree at Habitat. For a similar **picture frame**, from £15, visit Ikea.



VELVET GOLDMINE

Tactile upholstery hits the spot – here's one bed you'll never want to leave.

Chrome velvet king-size bed in Slate, £895; and Top Dog king-size mattress, £945, Loaf. Hampden oak mirror, £299, M&S. Duckbilled oak side table, £1,037, Julian Chichester. Dale lamp shade, £90, Croft Collection at John Lewis. Regular linen pillowcases, £48 each; king-size flat linen sheet, £159; and king-size linen duvet cover, £297, all Larusi. Plaid de Voyage wool throw, £245, Caravane. Silk dressing gown, £210, Gingerlily. Nagoya teacup and saucer, £24.99 for the set, Alison Appleton at Utility. Feroe Motif rug, as before. Moroccan Berber slippers, £22 per pair, Bohemia Design.



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HOME STUDY

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MAIN IMAGE: Muuto Visu chair, £249; Muuto 70/70 table, £1,095; Muuto Leaf table lamp, £149; and Muuto E27 socket lamp, £52. CLOCKWISE FROM RIGHT: Eichholtz *Agate Abstracts*, £600 for a set of two prints; Normann Copenhagen One Step Up bookcase High, £410; Fatboy Non Flying Carpet rug, £149.95; Normann Copenhagen Kabino sideboard, £700; Charles and Ray Eames DSW chair for Vitra, £332.40; and Hübsch baskets, £64 for a set of two



As autumn approaches, it's time to think about going back to school, booking that evening class, or just knuckling down and sorting out all that home admin that's been piling up over the summer. A well-organised (and aesthetically pleasing) office area is essential for inspiring you to get all those little jobs done and now is the ideal time to rethink your work zone.

Struggling to decide on a place to start? Then you should consult innovative online interiors destination Houseology.com. This new website not only showcases fabulous collections of furniture, lighting and accessories, all available to buy, but also offers guidance and inspiration curated by a team of professional interior designers. Between them, they have the tools and techniques to help you achieve the looks you desire.

One trick that's crucial to good design is the creation of a moodboard and the Houseology.com design and tech teams have collaborated to create a unique online tool to help you devise your perfect scheme. Simply upload an image of the room you're working on, then get inventive, adding colour swatches, hero pieces and

accessories to build a visual reference for the room of your dreams. You'll then be able to amend it as you go, keeping track of your budget, and also share it with family and friends.

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HOMES

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WILD THINGS

Bold ideas and macabre touches make for an epic, untamed space

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INDUSTRIAL LUXE

Utilitarian fittings mix with cosy hits in this Hamburg flat

page 98

PRETTY FLAMINGOS

Miami brights give this quirky house an endless summer vibe

wild things

With drama in its design DNA and innovative ideas bouncing off the walls, there's nothing tame about the style of Graz and Nick's family home

Photography – Paul Massey
Styling – Mary Weaver
Words – Jenny Tucker



LIVING ROOM

'Nick and I don't consciously mix styles,' says Graz. 'We simply buy what we love. But mid-century design is one of our favourites, so we can't help being drawn to that era.'

GET THE LOOK The vintage Murano chandelier and stainless-steel sm05 chair by Cees Braakman are from Atomic Antiques. The green leather sofa is Fifties Danish.



Home profile

THE OWNERS Nick Darken, a creative partner at digital agency KBS+Albion, his wife Graz, an interior consultant and founder of boutique scarf brand Slices London, and their sons Teal, 13, and Layfe, 11, and daughter Cyan, nine, plus husky puppy Bear.

THE PROPERTY A Victorian terrace in north London. The lower-ground floor includes a kitchen-diner, studio and snug, with the living room and library above. The master bedroom suite is on the first floor and the kids' rooms and a bathroom are upstairs.

LIBRARY

This is where the Darkens go for some peace and quiet. 'I often retreat in here on my own,' admits Nick. 'But one by one, the kids will find me. And usually the dog too.'

GET THE LOOK The reclaimed parquet flooring is from Architectural Forum. This is the Kennedee sofa by John-Marie Massaud for Poltrona Frau. The rug is from House Doctor.

SNUG

An original part of the house is radically transformed using pattern and shape.

GET THE LOOK The fireplace is covered with Fired Earth's Portland tiles. The concrete ledge below is a bespoke design by White + Reid. The Moroccan rug is an antique Berber design. For a matching wallpaper, check out Lear Dark by Kristjana S Williams.





LANDING

Period features are given a twist with modern fixtures.
GET THE LOOK The industrial pendant is from *Trainspotters*.
The Beat pendant in the foreground is by *Tom Dixon*.

Most of us love a touch of *drama* in our lives,

but in the north London home of Nick and Graz Darken, a stellar performance is practically oozing from the walls. And, at every turn, in every corner, there is something spectacular going on. Whether it's an art piece from a burgeoning young talent or a taxidermy rabbit on a bookshelf, the overall effect is simply stunning. 'When people come to our house, they often don't leave that quickly,' says Graz, with a laugh. 'They usually get sidetracked by something that's caught their eye.'

With a creative background in graphics, Graz met Nick at design school in Melbourne, Australia. The couple moved to the UK more than 17 years ago, bringing with them an allegiance to the unusual and distinctive. 'We like to think that when we buy things, we'll have them forever,' says Nick. 'We're not ones to say, "Let's just get it for now". So when we do choose something, it has to be particularly appealing – something we'll love for life.'

'We like interiors with their own story,' says Graz, 'and the more obscure the better. If something grabs my attention, I'll do a bit of research into its background [check out the fab piece of graffiti that graces son Teal's room at the top of the house – up-and-coming artists are one of Graz's special interests]. I love to collect things too,' she adds. In fact, it was collecting that kick-started Graz's design business, Slices London. After stumbling across a box of Victorian microscopic slides at a sale some 12 years ago, she turned the images into artwork and fabric for scarves, many of which have been spotted draped across the shoulders of celebrities including Kate Moss and Emma Watson.

And so it was inevitable that this Victorian home, bought in 2006, would evolve into something gloriously unique. But first, the house had to wait in line while it was painted white throughout and the children had time to grow up. 'I'd just given birth to our daughter,'

says Graz, 'and so we had three kids under the age of four. In practical terms, it meant the renovation had to be put on hold. It wasn't until six years later that things really got started.'

After collaborating with architect Irene Cossey and Emmett Russell Architects, the property was gutted and a rear basement extension and a four-level side extension were added. Then, 18 months later, the fun bit began. 'To be honest, we found the interiors part a doddle because we'd lived in the house for so long and we knew exactly how we wanted it,' admits Nick. 'Certain things were intrinsic to our plans – for example, we're obsessed with lighting and usually have at least six lights in each room and we were adamant that the house had to be practical and that meant tons of storage space for all the clutter.'

Graz, with her tongue firmly in cheek, designed each room with a sense of humour, even though the joke occasionally dipped its toe in darker waters. 'Although the house works as a whole, we wanted each space to have its own identity, so you might use a different room for a different mood – Nick loves hiding away in the library for some time out, while the kitchen is our gathering spot. I'd always say, never be afraid to mix contrasting textures within the one area – it adds interest. And I love to pick pieces that make people stop and ponder. Overall, I'm not girly – I tend to go for a more masculine design and friends say this house could be a bachelor's pad. Ever since our daughter was small, we've said to her, "We don't like pink, do we..."' Now she reckons she's the most Gothic of us all.'

So, as a home created for dramatic effect, this urban showcase stretches the boundaries of interior design so things get that bit curioser... and curioser.

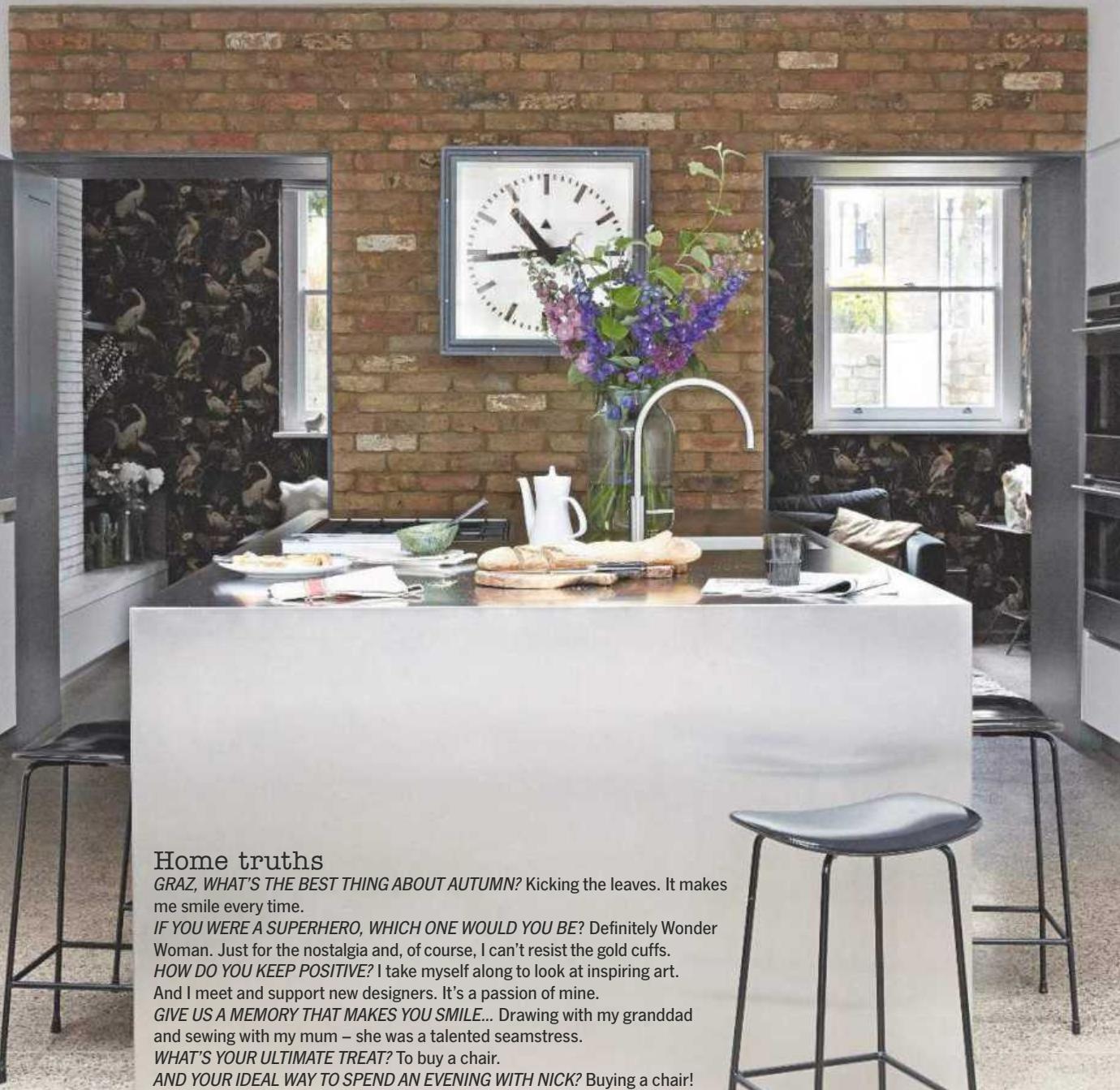
See Graz's work at sliceslondon.com and Nick's at albion.co

DINING AREA →

With deep light wells installed, a dingy basement becomes a bright family space.

'It's where we all gather to hang out and create chaos,' says Graz.

GET THE LOOK The table was custom-built with reclaimed oak from a French barn and positioned on a steel frame. The DSW Eames chairs are from a vintage dealer. The industrial lights were once part of Heathrow's Concorde hanger and were sourced from Trainspotters. Graz and Nick specially designed and commissioned the banquette seating.



Home truths

GRAZ, WHAT'S THE BEST THING ABOUT AUTUMN? Kicking the leaves. It makes me smile every time.

IF YOU WERE A SUPERHERO, WHICH ONE WOULD YOU BE? Definitely Wonder Woman. Just for the nostalgia and, of course, I can't resist the gold cuffs.

HOW DO YOU KEEP POSITIVE? I take myself along to look at inspiring art. And I meet and support new designers. It's a passion of mine.

GIVE US A MEMORY THAT MAKES YOU SMILE... Drawing with my granddad and sewing with my mum – she was a talented seamstress.

WHAT'S YOUR ULTIMATE TREAT? To buy a chair.

AND YOUR IDEAL WAY TO SPEND AN EVENING WITH NICK? Buying a chair!

KITCHEN

The scheme was actually kick-started by the wall clock. 'We had it first and wanted it to be a feature,' says Nick. 'So the stainless-steel island was specially positioned to highlight it. Unfortunately, the island was so bulky, it had to be craned in through the back of the house!'

GET THE LOOK The Eastern European train station clock is from Trainspotters. This is a Bulthaup island. The Fifties bar stools are by Frank Guille for Kandy. The exposed concrete floor is by Lazenby.



↓ MASTER BEDROOM ↗

Offbeat accessories give this scheme a quirky edge. 'We may have a slightly warped sense of humour, but we love things that make us smile,' says Graz.

GET THE LOOK The table lamp from Atomic Antiques is teamed with a custom-made fringed shade. This is a Goldsmiths quilt by Cuthom. The Prom Queen 3 painting is by Sara Berman. The RAR rocker is by Charles and Ray Eames for Vitra.

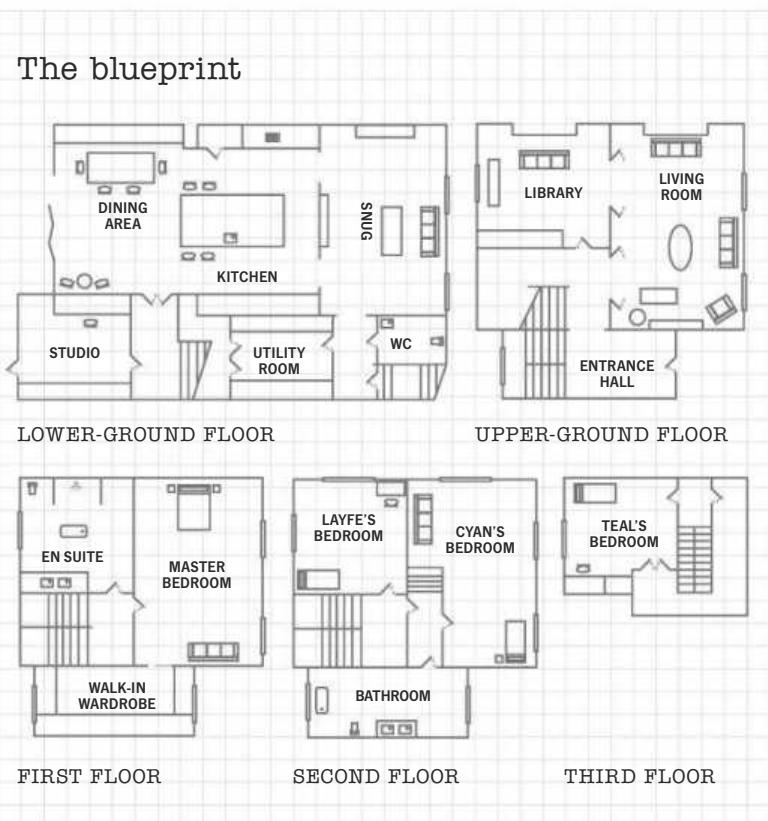
MASTER EN SUITE →

Bookmatched marble makes a grand shower wall.

GET THE LOOK The freestanding Ottocento bath is by Agape. This is the Offcut stool by Tom Dixon.



The blueprint



‘Some of the things I collect are rather macabre, but I love them...’



TEAL'S BEDROOM

This loft space gives the teenager plenty of room to get away from it all.

GET THE LOOK The specially commissioned wall art was created by graffiti artist David Nash.

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house-tours](http://housetohome.co.uk/house-tours)



IDEAS to STEAL

Inject drama into a period setting with bravura colours and offbeat shapes

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Amazonia Dark wallpaper, £240 per 10m roll, Witch and Watchman at Rockett St George; Hicks' Blue matt emulsion, £37 for 2.5l, Little Greene; and Calacatta Viola polished marble tile, from £89.98 per sq m, Mandarin Stone



KEY FEATURE Tiled chimney breast

Even in the original Victorian part of the house, Graz and Nick couldn't help making their own distinctive mark. Adding a subtle element of contrast to the period cornicing, the tiled chimney breast looks both retro (include a shag-pile carpet and the scheme would be fit for Austin Powers) and contemporary (white, metro-style tiles with darker grout are still a key look). Using one of the alcoves as a log store is clever too. These are Fired Earth (firedearth.com) tiles – for similar, check out its White Matt Architecture, £47.52 per sq m.

KEY PRODUCTS

1



2

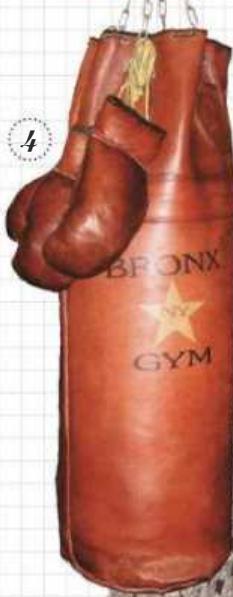


3



1 **Ballerinas V** giclée print, £245, Miss Van at Nelly Duff 2 Phane prismatic-glass pendant, £185, Original BTC 3 Portland bench, £525, Abigail Ahern 4 Leather punch bag and boxing gloves, £295 per set, Andy Thornton 5 Parrot resin bookends, £42 for the pair, MiaFleur 6 Berber wool rug, from £949, Gan by Gandia Blasco at Woven 7 Trevi three-seater velvet sofa, from £5,700, Manzoni and Tapinassi for Natuzzi Italia

4



5



6



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industrial luxe

It may have bare concrete surfaces and utilitarian fittings, but Ulla and Mathias's Hamburg home has a cosy vibe thanks to warm wood, flowing curtains and an abundance of sofas

Photography – Christian Schaulin
Words and styling – Kerstin Rose



Home profile

THE OWNERS Ulla Jahn, owner of interiors store Func.furniture, which specialises in rare 20th-century designs, and her husband Mathias, who runs content marketing agency Sould.
THE PROPERTY An open-plan, first-floor apartment in Hamburg, Germany, with a kitchen/dining area, office area, living area, two bedrooms and two bathrooms. Plus, there are two small terraces outside.

LIVING AREA

'We love to lie down and relax,' says Mathias, laughing. 'That's why there are so many sofas – it's important for us to feel we can take some time out.'

GET THE LOOK The 606 Universal shelving system is by Dieter Rams for Vitsoe. The blue Lifesteel sofa, leather chaise longue and grey lounger are all by Antonio Citterio for Flexform. The tripod lamp was custom-built by Munich artist Pepe, using headlamps on a tripod stand. The rug was custom-made by Carmen Gloger for Hamburg interiors store Sleeping Dogs.





'Our home might appear industrial, but it's totally *gemütlich*

[German for "cosy"],' declares Mathias Jahn, when describing the open-plan apartment he shares with his wife Ulla. And he's right. Constructed two years ago in a complex near the River Elbe, the flat was originally designed to be a five-room new build. But after viewing almost 50 other properties, the Jahns decided to take the place over in its raw, undecorated, no-room state.

'We really wanted to buy a loft space,' admits Mathias, 'but we just couldn't find the right thing. Then we realised that if we kept the basic layout, we could divide it up into a collection of spacious zones and create a single hall/passage to connect the two main living areas. We told the developers to stop where they were, leaving all the cables, pipes, ceilings and floors exposed, so we had the ultimate shell to turn into something of our own.'

Ulla adds, 'It was such a unique opportunity – a crude starting point, but we liked that. We decided to polish the concrete floor, but we didn't touch the ceiling and even left all the scribbled numbers and notes written by builders on the concrete columns. The developers thought they would be painted over, but because we didn't go down the conventional route, we've ended up keeping them.'

After meticulously compiling a huge moodboard on Pinterest and collecting style ideas from all over the world, the couple refined their vision to develop a design that flows seamlessly as one.

'There's just the two of us living here,' explains Ulla, 'so we worked together to get a home that is exactly right for us. This meant a huge kitchen, where we can have our friends over – they all congregate around the central island. But if it's just the two of us and I'm in the kitchen, I only have to look through the hallway and I can see Mathias in the living room. There's a real sense of unity here and that's a lovely way to live.'

Either side of the hallway are Ulla and Mathias's separate bedrooms – both cleverly concealed behind a row of wooden doors, which also house cupboards. 'You have to know which is the right door to go through,' jokes Mathias, 'otherwise you step in among our clothes.'

Another his 'n' hers accessory is the Eames Tandem Shell Seating System Bench, with each chair facing their respective bedrooms. 'Not only does it look great,' says Mathias, 'we keep our keys, Ulla's handbag and all our stuff on it and it's handy when we need to put on our shoes.'

It's the sharp detail that makes this home so alluring. Take the geometric tiles in the kitchen, for example, which were sourced from Morocco and chosen after the Jahns dabbled with half a dozen different colourways. The couple installed them like a carpet runner, positioning the freestanding stainless-steel island and the Knoll dining table in the middle. Then they extended the tiles to climb up one wall. Why? 'Well... for effect and for fun,' says Mathias. 'Striking, don't you think?'

Other touches of daring are the whimsical art choices and lush shades of inky blues on the walls using natural pigments produced from the Le Corbusier spectrum by specialist Swiss company kt.Color. 'It was important the apartment felt homely and welcoming,' says Mathias. 'The wall tones are so rich, they almost look like velvet. And because we didn't want the space to come across as aloof or sparse, we've added lots of warm wood, curtains – for the first time in our lives – and rather a lot of sofas. Ulla likes to read on the chaise longue, while the huge sofa is for lying down and watching TV – we love *Downton Abbey*!'

Taking an urban concrete-encased apartment and turning it into a cosy, inviting home is a hard act to pull off, but Mathias and Ulla have got it right without a doubt. Surely, there are some downsides? 'The one dilemma is it's so comfortable, I never want to go out,' says Ulla, laughing. What a lovely problem to have.

Visit Ulla's interiors store at funcfurniture.de and Mathias's content marketing agency at souldcompany.com

HALLWAY

The American walnut-veneer cupboards are accessible from both sides and also cleverly conceal the entrance to each bedroom. **GET THE LOOK** The Tandem Shell Seating System Bench by Charles and Ray Eames for Herman Miller houses the couple's his 'n' hers chairs, each facing their separate bedrooms.



LIVING AREA

A corner of the space provides a focal point for the couple's contemporary art.

GET THE LOOK The Henry VIII portrait is from a poster advertising a Hiroshi Sugimoto photographic exhibition in 1999. The Harbour R2D2 sculpture is by Hamburg-based artist Florian Borkenhagen.

Passage



Home truths

WOODS OR SEASIDE? *Ulla*: 'Seaside. I love to collect shells and put them in my flowerpots, so I can't see any brown soil.'

Mathias: 'Anywhere that has no shells!'

FAVOURITE CITY? *Ulla*: 'London – so much

creativity and the people are so polite.'

Mathias: 'Hamburg. It's a bit like... you know... London.'

WHAT'S THE BEST VIEW YOU'VE EVER SEEN? *Ulla*: 'From a little hotel in Paris, which overlooks Ladurée.'

Mathias: 'The harbour view from our last flat in Hamburg.'

IF YOU WERE AN ANIMAL, WHAT WOULD YOU BE? *Ulla*: 'My friend Tom's dog – he gets fed the best organic food.'

Mathias: 'A Jaguar, as it's also a car.'

WHAT MAKES YOU HAPPY? *Ulla*:

'Searching for special design pieces and finding a really good restaurant.'

Mathias: 'Accompanying Ulla on the above.'

TELL US A SECRET! *Ulla*: 'I'm a fan of

Queen Elizabeth. But don't tell anybody.'

Mathias: 'I like to put marshmallows in my hot chocolate!'

KITCHEN

From the eye-popping floor tiles to the vintage neon signage and the 'come-gather' central island, this is an area that demands attention. As Ulla says, 'Why be boring?'

GET THE LOOK The Passage sign, taken from a famous cinema in Hamburg, had been in Ulla's shop for nearly 18 months, but as soon as the couple bought the apartment, they knew it would be a perfect fit. The 3-D effect Mosaic del Sur tiles are from zementfliesen.net. The central island was custom-made by Hamburg kitchen specialist Hummel Küchenwerk.



DINING AREA

'This is our central hub,' says Ulla, 'where we gather with friends and Mathias and I sit to chat. The fact the apartment is so open means no one is ever far away.'

GET THE LOOK The Florence Knoll table desk and Eames upholstered moulded plywood DCM dining chairs are all from func. Furniture. The pendant light is the PH Artichoke lamp by Poul Henningsen for Louis Poulsen. The Einstein Tries to Rescue Kennedy After He Was Gunned Down artwork on the wall is by Florian Borkenhagen.

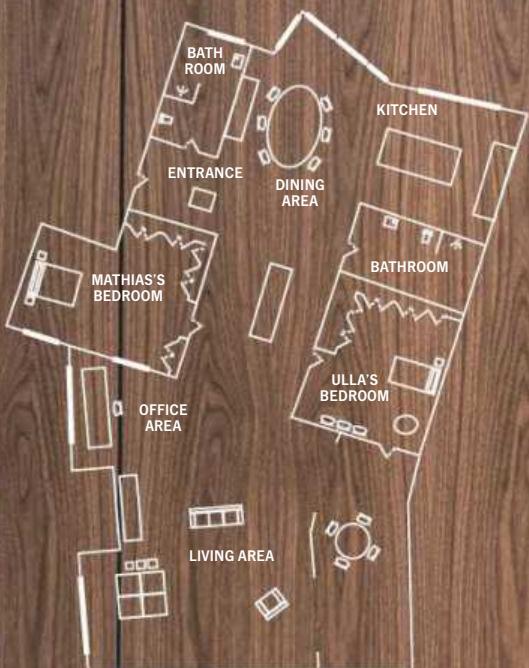


BATHROOM

Dark tiles, a grey basin and a striking orange cabin trolley from Austrian Airlines push this unique space way beyond the confines of the usual white porcelain approach.

GET THE LOOK These are Mews tiles by Barber & Osgerby for Mutina bought from local bath specialist Flagstone Hamburg. The hand basin was custom-made by Hamburg firm Concrete Home Design. The mixer tap is by Arne Jacobsen for Vola.

The blueprint



ULLA'S BEDROOM

The deep blues of the Le Corbusier natural pigments used in both bedrooms create an almost cocoon-like effect.

GET THE LOOK The And Then... Red lithograph on the wall is by Takashi Murakami.



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IDEAS to STEAL

Soften an industrial aesthetic with shots of zingy orange and bold 3-D pattern

KEY SURFACES



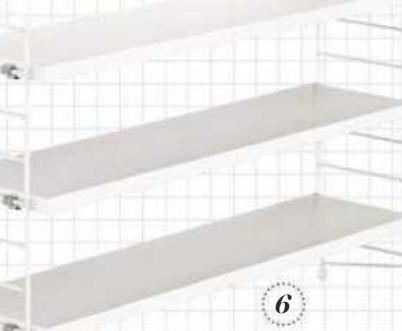
FROM LEFT B-Concrete Grey porcelain tile, £38 per sq m, Concept Tiles; Hicks' Blue absolute matt emulsion, £53 for 2.5l, Little Greene; and Cube vinyl flooring, from £39 per sq m, Murafloor



KEY FEATURE Polished concrete floor

There is something simple and uncompromising about polished concrete, with a purity in its architectural lines. Ulla and Mathias mixed raw materials and textures here, with the rough, unfinished concrete on the ceiling contrasting with the crafted wood cupboards and the glass-like smoothness of the floor. Once sealed, a polished concrete floor requires little more than a weekly sweep and mop. TopCret (topcret.com) creates bespoke concrete surfaces – for a polished concrete floor like this, contact the company's northwest London HQ.

KEY PRODUCTS



- 1 Airfield Perimeter light, £528, Benjamin at Skinflint
- 2 Karma rug, from £99, Woven
- 3 My Bricks porcelain ornaments, £92.50 for a set of 39, Selab and Alessandro Zambelli for Seletti at Amara
- 4 Concrete Fella table lamp, £105, French Connection Home
- 5 Jerry dining chair, £80, Habitat
- 6 String Pocket shelving system, £93, Nils Strinning for String at Twentytwentyone
- 7 Carlton three-seater leather and linen-mix sofa, £4,519, Anders Nørgaard for BoConcept

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From the makers of



Pretty flamingos...

...designer butterflies and hot pops of Miami-style colour transport Cheryl and Andy's period home from city to summer all year round



Home profile
THE OWNERS Cheryl Taylor, a breast-cancer surgeon, her husband Andy, a town planner turned property developer, and their sons Barnaby, four, and Laurence, two.

THE PROPERTY A double-fronted Victorian house in southwest London. The ground floor has a living room and playroom, with a glass-sided walkway and stairs down to the open-plan family room and kitchen-diner (plus utility room and WC). There are three bedrooms (one en suite), a family bathroom and study on the first floor, with the master suite on the top floor.

KITCHEN

Slender gaps in the wood risers let slivers of sunlight shine through the suspended glass-clad staircase, adding to the feeling of lightness and space.

GET THE LOOK The kitchen is by Smallbone and is painted in Farrow & Ball's Light Blue estate eggshell. This is a Samsung fridge. The bar stools are from Ligne Roset. These are Tom Dixon's Beat pendants. The floor tiles are from European Heritage.



Photography – James Merrell
Styling – Mary Weaver
Words – Jo Leevers



OUTSIDE/GARDEN

The slice of garden is cleverly designed in receding sections – decking, seating, hedge, lawn and a raised bed – which creates the illusion of depth, as it fades into the distance. ‘The planting makes the best possible use of the small and unusual space,’ says Andy. The white concrete retaining wall has been customised into a tropical bench.

GET THE LOOK The bench is covered in Palma fabric by Michael Szell at Christopher Farr Cloth. The flamingos are from Graham and Green.

Discovering a new angle



HALLWAY ↑

The central hallway was widened and the couple laid floor tiles that are part-modern, part-Victorian. 'The pattern harks back to the house's roots, but the shades are crisper, less gloomy,' says Andy. Walls and a section of floor were removed to create a double-height atrium, emphasised by the cluster of pendants.

GET THE LOOK The tiles are from London Mosaic.

sums up Cheryl and Andy's approach to their London home, where they have peeled back the folds of its formal Victorian cloak to reveal something sharper and altogether more intriguing. Their masterstroke was slicing decisively through the house's traditional core, inserting sections of glass and crisp lines, so that the once buttoned-up 19th-century space now flows with renewed energy.

Today, the house is anything but predictable; much of its dynamism stemming from contrasts, whether brights against pale shades or traditional vs modern materials. But this is a couple who admit to quite different tastes. 'My favourite artist is Modigliani – very measured and classically composed,' says Cheryl. 'Andy's? Jackson Pollock paint splatters, Damien Hirst skulls – anything that challenges rather than soothes,' she says, laughing.

But it's the contrasting styles of architecture that pack the biggest punch – and succeed in solving an architectural puzzle that has lain at the heart of this Fulham home since it was built. It's not obvious at first, but the floor plan of this handsome double-fronted house is more trapezium than rectangle – probably the result of bickering Victorian builders when the land was divvied up. The result is that the house's two exterior side walls gently angle inwards, finally meeting in a point at the end of the cake-slice of garden.

Given his work as a property developer, Andy was unfazed by this. 'I'm used to finding solutions to unusual problems and breathing new life into old buildings,' he says. Cheryl, a surgeon by profession, was less blasé. 'Frankly, the irregular angles were a bit scary and had already put off several other buyers. They made the house seem more complicated,' she says.

But neither Cheryl nor Andy is in the habit of shirking a challenge. And Andy's philosophy – to work with the problem rather than trying to disguise it – has paid off. 'In the end, the wall angles were the driving force behind the house's redesign and architecture,' he says. The tapered, almost triangular floor spaces seemed to be crying out for a new central staircase. Which, in turn, naturally divided the lower-ground floor into two zones – kitchen-diner and family room.

The angle-oriented design also feeds into the details. The marble island in the centre of the classic Smallbone kitchen was made so that each long side is parallel with its exterior wall – making a subtler mini trapezium. 'If we'd gone for a standard rectangle, it would have looked clumsy and drawn even more attention to the disparity,' says Andy. Instead, the lines of the island and the walls all recede into a vanishing point in the garden, like an exercise in classical perspective drawing. 'Smallbone were great – and totally adaptable,' says Andy.

Sometimes, the meeting of old and new is near-seamless – the tiles laid in the newly widened hallway have a touch of Victoriana, but are in punchier hues than the gentlefolk of SW6 would have seen in the 1880s. But glass is the mainstay of this light-enhancing renovation, used for vast picture windows on each landing, full-height bifolds and balustrades. Andy's boldest move was removing two walls and a floor over the family room and replacing it with, well – air. The glass balcony and balustrades over the double-height atrium mean it's now 'a dramatic dining space, where light can pass into every corner,' says Cheryl. 'The boys "get" what they can and can't do – no throwing and no climbing are firm house rules,' she adds. 'To be honest, they're more into planting big smelly kisses on the glass.'

A sense of fun in their family-friendly space is also augmented by pops of neon, flocks of pink flamingos and Christian Lacroix butterflies. Upstairs, colour is also worked into geometric fabrics, rugs and throws that reference the sharp lines and angles that have been a part of the house's DNA since it was built.

In a corner of the family room, there's a set of framed photos that show 'before' and 'after' images of the house. The previous lower-ground floor is unrecognisable. 'It was dank and dark, with tiny frosted windows,' says Cheryl. 'The only things that glittered were layers of tin foil stuck on the walls – I don't want to think about what the previous owners were up to...'

Whatever fun and games went on in this house before, it's Cheryl and Andy's gleaming, glass-enhanced update that really blows us away.

See more Smallbone kitchens in this style at smallbone.co.uk

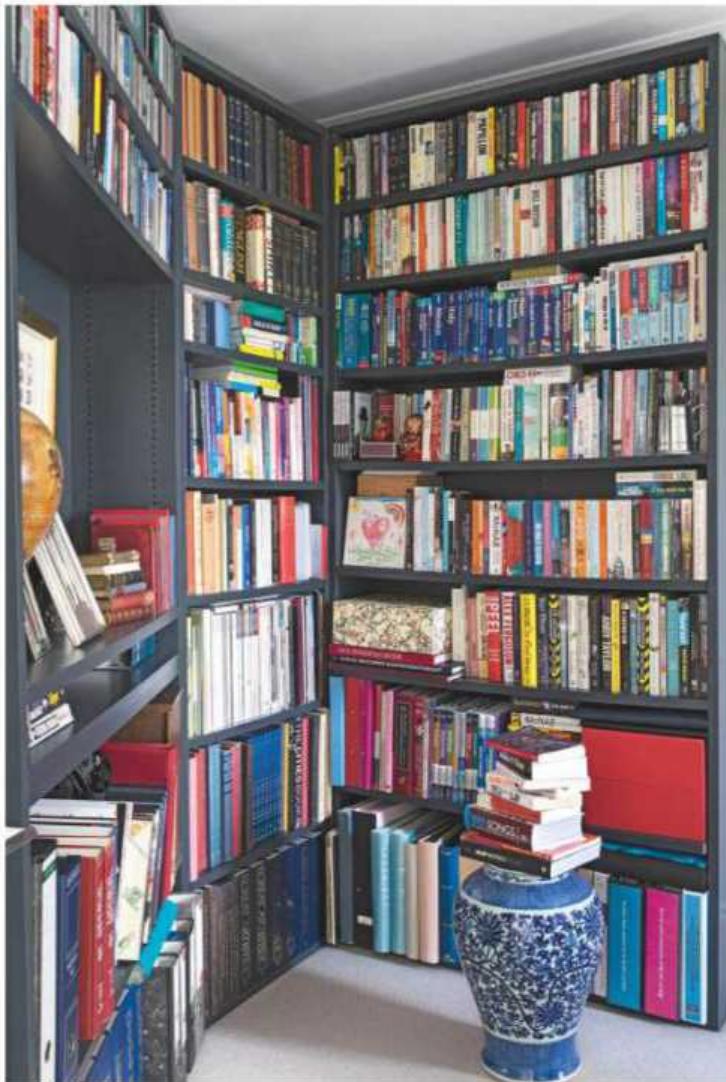


DINING AREA

Cheryl wanted a blown-glass chandelier for this double-height space; Andy wanted the top hats. 'On this occasion, I won, but we both like the humour they add,' says Andy.

GET THE LOOK The chairs were reupholstered in *Butterfly Parade* by Christian Lacroix for Designers Guild. The table is vintage. These are Jeeves and Wooster pendants by Jake Phipps for Innermost. The pink skull ornament is from Graham and Green.





← LIVING ROOM

'This space recalls life BC – Before Children,' says Cheryl, smiling. 'We try to keep it as a grown-up space for chats and late-night cognacs. It also shows our different tastes in art. I brought the reproduction Modigliani to the marriage; Andy brought the abstract painting over the fireplace.' Bold colours pull the couple's look together.

GET THE LOOK The painting above the fireplace is by Tim Garwood. The Modigliani is an old reproduction. The glass knot on the mantelpiece is by William Yeoward. The vase is by Jonathan Adler. The chairs are from George Smith and the footstool is from Arlo & Jacob. The sofa is from Christopher Wray with a cushion from Designers Guild. The rug is by Suzanne Sharp for The Rug Company.

STUDY ↑

Bespoke shelving makes a feature of the unusual angles at play in the study. 'We've worked with the esoteric shapes of the rooms, rather than trying to disguise them,' says Andy. **GET THE LOOK** The shelving is by Darma. Orchid sells tall Chinese urns.



Home truths

FAVOURITE SUMMERTIME TRACK? Cheryl: *Get Ready* by Ella Fitzgerald. **ON HOLIDAY, TOE-DIPPING IN THE SHALLOW END OR DIVING IN THE DEEP END?** Cheryl: Depends where the bar is... **COLOUR MAKES YOU FEEL...** Cheryl: M-i-g-h-t-y R-e-a-l (think Jimmy Somerville).

WHAT YOU'D NEVER FIND IN YOUR HOUSE? Cheryl: Peace and quiet!

FAVOURITE THING ON THE BARBECUE? Both: Tiger prawns.

NEXT TIME YOU PAINT, IT'LL BE IN... Cheryl: Teal by Paint & Paper Library. **YOU'D LOVE A TROLLEY DASH IN...** Andy: Heal's or The Conran Shop would have me raring to go.

DOWNSTAIRS WC ↑

'We wanted every space to have a bit of light-hearted humour – even the smallest ones,' says Cheryl. **GET THE LOOK** The Newspaper Black 20600 wallpaper by Illusion is from Direct Wallpaper. The Duravit WC is from CP Hart. This is an Orla Kiely towel.

MASTER BEDROOM

Colour pops lift this loft conversion master suite into a sophisticated but fun space.

GET THE LOOK The flooring is from Pietra. The chairs and bedside cabinet are from Graham and Green. The pineapple lamp is from House of Hackney. The rug is from Heal's. The white bed linen is from The Linen Works. The orange bed throw and small vases are by Jonathan Adler. The pineapple cushion on the chair is from Oliver Bonas. The cushion on the bed is from Designers Guild.



MASTER EN SUITE

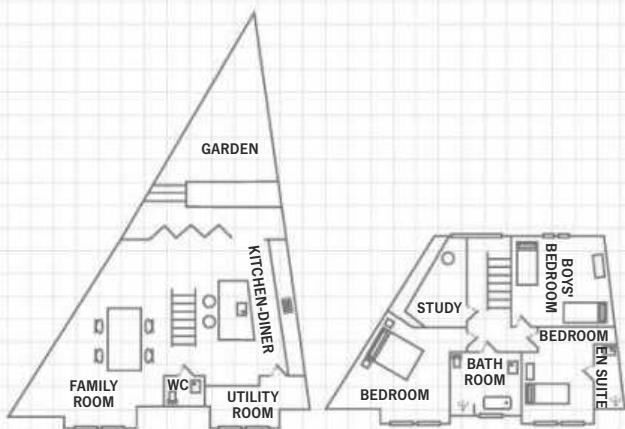
'The organic curves of this bath are a calm contrast to all the straight lines and angles in our house,' says Cheryl. 'We placed it right under the window so you can lie back and stargaze.'

GET THE LOOK The bath is from Victoria + Albert. The bath filler is from CP Hart. The floor tiles are from Capitol Designer Studio. The walls are painted in Salt V by Paint & Paper Library.



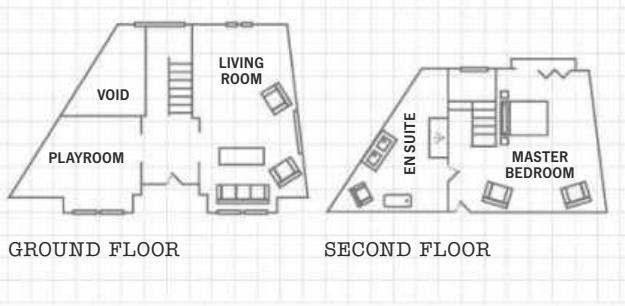
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The blueprint



LOWER-GROUND FLOOR

FIRST FLOOR



GROUND FLOOR

SECOND FLOOR

**KIDS' BEDROOM**

A papered chest of drawers doubles as a geography lesson – with India as the centrepiece. 'I wanted to highlight the country as a nod to my heritage,' says Cheryl.

GET THE LOOK The chest is by Bryonie Porter. The duvet cover is by Anorak and the rug is from John Lewis. The mobile is from Skandium.

'We can't resist adding pops of colour or witty surprises that make you look twice'





IDEAS to STEAL

For a breezy summer vibe all year round, add tropical touches to a pale, airy scheme

KEY SURFACES



FROM LEFT Grey News Print wallpaper, £15 per 10m roll, Next Home; Dawn Blue matt emulsion, £39 for 2.5l, Sanderson; and Patisserie glazed ceramic floor tiles in Hevin, £74.70 per sq m, Fired Earth



KEY FEATURE Floating staircase

Cheryl and Andy's decision to install a suspended glass-clad staircase in the kitchen of their Victorian house was a masterstroke, as it not only looks striking, but also creates a feeling of lightness and space. EeStairs (eestairs.co.uk) can produce and fit a similar style, as well as advise on building regulations (floating staircases cannot be installed in all homes). It offers custom-made or standard designs, straight or spiral, with treads made from stone, timber or glass. Prices start at approx £8,000 for a standard timber floating staircase.

KEY PRODUCTS



1



2



3



4



6



7

1 Flo the Flamingo model, £30, Linea at House of Fraser 2 Butterfly Parade boxes, £48 for a set of three, Christian Lacroix at Amara 3 Pineapple lamp, £125, Graham and Green 4 Outdoor pouffe, £91, SquareFoxDesigns at Etsy 5 Printed striped rug, £28, Oliver Bonas 6 Hastings ABC chest of drawers, £549, M&S 7 Munchkin velvet armchair in Bahama, £655, Loaf

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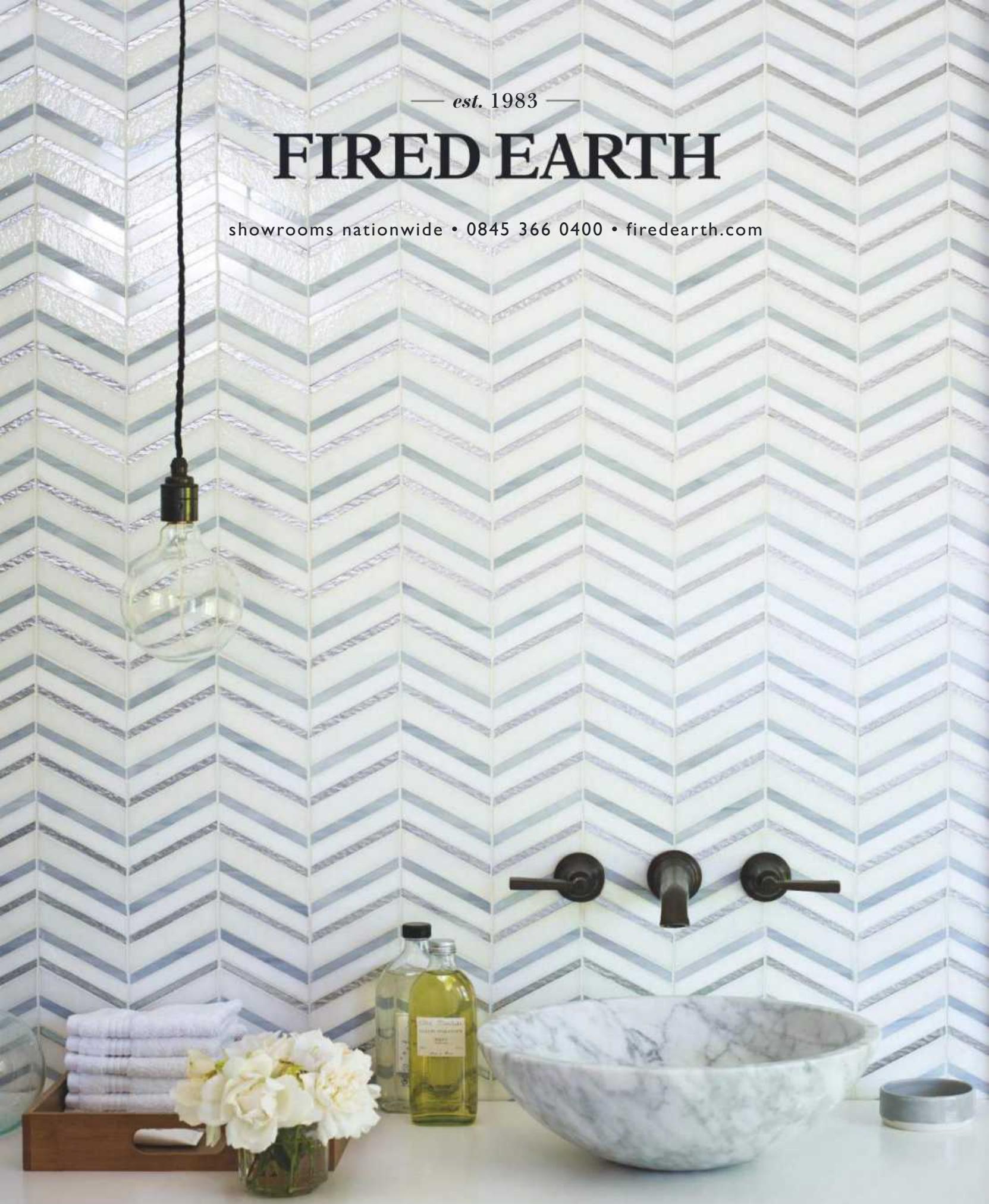
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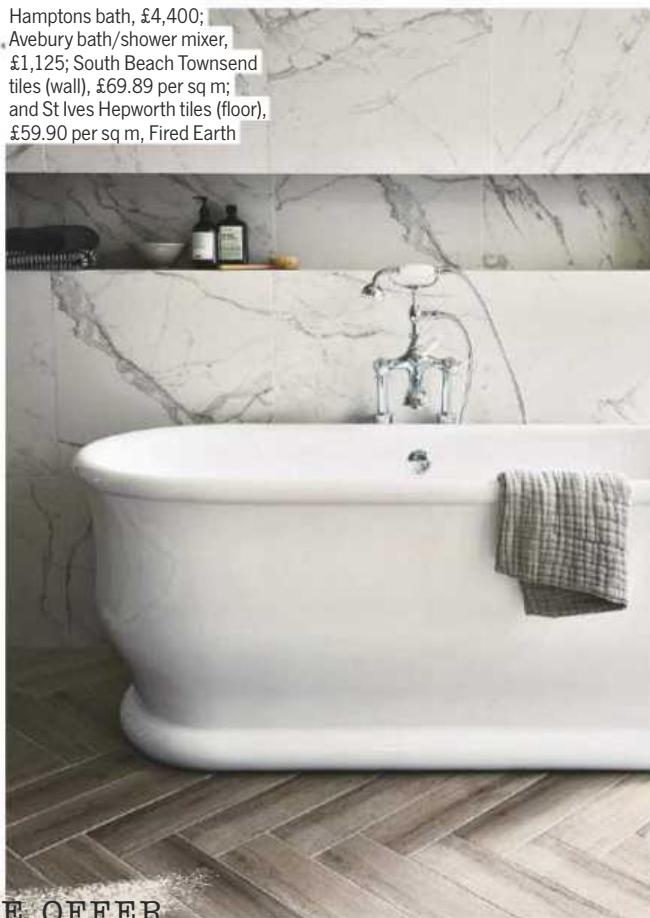


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Hamptons bath, £4,400; Avebury bath/shower mixer, £1,125; South Beach Townsend tiles (wall), £69.89 per sq m; and St Ives Hepworth tiles (floor), £59.90 per sq m, Fired Earth



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Product etc

Kitchens and bathrooms

EDITED BY AMY MOOREA WONG



Dark arts

deVol Kitchens has teamed up with woodsman-of-the-moment Sebastian Cox for his first foray into kitchen cabinetry. The collection is crafted from sustainable British timber, such as beech or ash, and can be personalised with coloured stains like this inky black, left, which looks great with the copper hardware. *Sebastian Cox Kitchens by deVol start at £11,000 (devolkitchens.co.uk)*



SLEEK STASH

Keep toiletries in check with CP Hart's slick new bathroom cabinetry. The Lignum by Karol collection comes in 126 lacquered colours, such as this Verdi Chiaro, as well as wood and stone, so will fit right into any scheme. From £1,776 (cphart.co.uk)



TOUGH NUT

For supercharged smoothies, look no further than the NutriBullet Pro 900. Its powerful motor will pulverise tough seeds and stalks in seconds, ensuring you get every last drop of goodness. £149.99 (buynutribullet.co.uk)



Cover story

You'll have a hard time marking Topcret's new Baxab floor finish, which is scratch- and stain-proof. At 3mm thick, the micro-covering is applied over existing surfaces and is ready just hours later. From £128 per sq m, including installation (topcret.com)

Livingetc LOVES



SMALL WONDER

Is your bathroom on the petite side? Well, thanks to the Albion Bath Company, you can have a stylish soak in a fraction of the standard bath space. This Tubby Torre is deep enough to submerge yourself, but at 1.2m long, it'll fit into places previously designated only to showers. Time to buy a rubber duck... From £2,289 (albionbathco.com)

FRENCH FLAIR

Add a spot of colour to your entertaining with a Steel Cucine and Le Creuset collaboration oven. The classic Ascot double model now comes in the iconic French brand's shades – choose from Mineral Blue, Sisal, Cotton or Amethyst, below, and you'll get a matching oven baking pot too. *Oh là là! £5,352 (bradshaw.co.uk)*



Product etc

Lifestyle and tech

EDITED BY AMY MOOREA WONG



Grill seeker

One of the most beautiful barbecues we've come across, the Morsø Forno Grill stands elegantly on three teak legs. The hooks on the wraparound steel ring keep hot cooking tools out of the way, while the cast-iron grill grate absorbs fat and flavourings in the meat, making for the tastiest of burgers. £595 (morsø.co.uk)



JET-SETTER

If you're travelling soon, don't leave home without this Diane von Furstenberg travel adaptor. Never mind that it works in 150 countries – just look at that python-print leather case! £68 (matchesfashion.com)



Face time

Umbrella or shades? The barometer tucked inside Bramwell Brown's Weather Clock will tell you which to opt for. Just check the theatrical illustrations, which change according to the climate, from Dry to Stormy. Forewarned is forearmed, as they say...

From £275 (bramwellbrown.com)

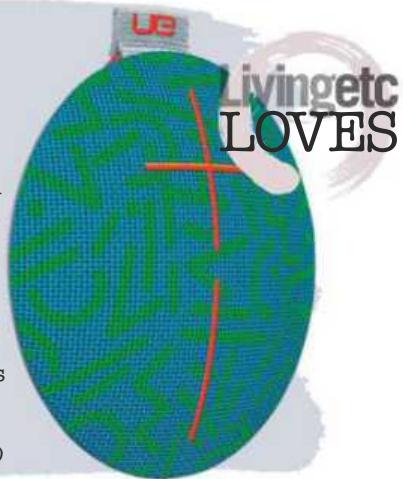
WALL ART



Give your garden parties an extra dimension with Evergreen Direct's Green Wall panels. Made from a customisable mix of faux plants, which look and feel like the real thing, it's goodbye to patiently coaxing vines toward the sky and hello to more deckchair time. £79.95 per sq m (evergreendirect.co.uk)

PARTY ON!

Ultimate Ears's UE Roll bluetooth speaker is designed with summer adventures in mind. Spill a cocktail on it, drop it in the pool, tie it to your surfboard with the built-in bungee cord – you'll still get crystal clear, 360° sound (and booming bass) through its stylish, IPX7-rated waterproof exterior. £99.99 (ultimateears.com)



POWER DUO

When you're in holiday preparation mode, efficiency is the key. Smeg's new super-duo the WHT1114LSUK washing machine and DHT81LUK tumble dryer both have A+++ energy ratings which, along with their low-decibel sound levels, mean that packing and unpacking might actually become a more soothing activity. Washing machine, from £649; and tumble dryer, from £549 (smeguk.com)



ASK A DESIGNER

In need of decorating advice? Trying to find a particular product? Our design guru is here to help



MARK GARSIDE With an eye for refreshing design, production and the unusual, Mark has vast experience in creating and manufacturing all manner of 3-D products. He has a unique practical knowledge of where to find things, what works and how to get what you can't buy made. Email your design dilemmas to Mark at etc@markgarside.com and he will answer as many of them as he can.

Q Recently, we had a new boiler fitted in the kitchen, which meant some pipework had to be routed through a few of the wall cabinets – this can now be seen through their glazed doors. Could you suggest any way to hide it, as boxing the pipes in will look unsightly too.

Jess and Simon, Lincoln

A Boxing in pipes generally looks worse, as it tends to make whatever you're trying to hide stand out even more. So I'd suggest having a full false panel installed to cover the whole of the back of the cabinet, with shelving cut to a new depth. Fitting panels often means you can easily extend your splashback and decorative features, such as ceramic tiling, into the cabinets, *right*.

Q Can you help us with a problem we have with our wood burner? The plaster wall and paint behind it have started to crack and we need to know how to repair it.

Kamila, Exeter

A Guidelines state you should install a stove approx 60cm away from plaster walls and about 8cm from an exposed brick wall, so I think yours has been put in too close. Paints at this proximity can't cope with the heat and will crack and peel up. Your easiest option is to install a heat-resistant board, which will need to be screwed to the wall, rather than using any adhesive. Promat Supalux from Promat (promat.co.uk) is a very good product, which is mainly used for fire- and heater-wall linings. This is available online at insulationshop.co for £32.62 per sq m. The only paints that can tolerate higher temperatures on the fire-resistant board are lime washes, so try Beeck Inslil silicate paint from the Cornish Lime Company (cornishlime.co.uk), approx £70 for 5l.

Q Our living area is decorated in whites, but we have lots of colour on the walls, as we collect original pop art prints and contemporary street art. We have two large sofas in a light grey, but we're looking to source a set of three footstools we can fit into the scheme without it feeling cluttered.

Jackie, Leeds

A Rather than add more neutral lumps into the room, you could go the other way and inject some functional pop art pieces into the space. Check out the fantastical Allsorts ottomans, *right*, from Davison Highley (davisonhighley.co.uk), which cost approx £860 each.



An unusual 'suite' of furniture from Davison Highley



Fitting a false wall into a glazed kitchen cabinet can hide unseemly pipework

Q I have a lovely, modernist-style console table in my hall, which I think came from Heal's during the Eighties. But its oak top has become very marked and I want to find a piece of leather to cover it. Where can I buy some?

Laura, London

A As you're in the capital, I'd make a trip to JT Batchelor (jtbatchelor.co.uk), because there you'll find every leather, fitting and tool needed to get what you want made, plus the smell of the leather in the shop is amazing! You'll probably have to buy a full hide

Blinds (crosbyblinds.co.uk) both stock Sunway wood-woven Roman blinds, which are made from sustainable sources. Also try Joss Graham (jossgraham.com) for traditional Chik blinds from India, which come strung in an array of unusual patterns.

Q I've recently refurbished my kitchen and I'm looking to source long, L-shaped finger pulls for the cupboards and units. My preference is to have them either in white, black or polished chrome. Ikea sells them in brushed

'There are loads of "woven wood" blinds that come in a variety of material combinations'

for the sizes you want cut out and it will cost approx £90, but you should have enough left over to cut a few extra place mats and coasters too.

Q I'm looking to introduce texture to a monochrome kitchen and have seen some quality bamboo blinds in magazines, but I can't seem to source them locally. Any ideas?

Janet, Stockport

A If you want raw natural texture, then there are loads of beautiful 'woven wood' options that come in a variety of material combinations. English Blinds (englishblinds.co.uk) and Crosby

aluminium, but that isn't the look I want. Could you suggest some quality alternatives?

Caroline, Ross-on-Wye

A Sometimes you'll find handles you like, but when they're not available in the finish you'd prefer, you may have to go bespoke – and be prepared to pay the extra! For metal finishes, talk to A & H Brass (ahbrass.co.uk), which has a huge selection of hardware, but also offers many different finishes as well as a custom service for reclaimed pieces. If a colour finish is needed, then powder coating is an option if you have a fair number to get done – try Armourtex (armourtexltd.co.uk) for this. For off-the-shelf L drawer and cabinet pulls, More Handles (morehandles.co.uk) has a few good options priced at under £10 each.

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Runs from 2 November to 4 December 2015

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COURSE COSTS £399

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ADD A TWIST

Check out these new ways to style your windows, walls, floors and even ceilings

Words – Rachel Ogden
Picture research – Nicola Rowe



CHOOSE UNEXPECTED SHAPES AND COLOURS

A freestanding bath always makes a stylish centrepiece. Up the ante by picking one with an avant-garde touch, such as these striking modern feet.

'Introducing coloured ceramics is a bold challenge to more than 30 years of monochrome bathrooms,' says Justin Homewood, director and founder of The Water Monopoly. 'Fifties shades, modern metal finishes and the curves and lines of classic design are a great way to pep up the usual traditional approach.'

GET THE LOOK This is the Rockwell Bath in Vitrite (a stone and mineral composite) with Blue feet, £5,880; and Rockwell wall-mounted bath taps with Blue ceramic crossheads, £768, by The Water Monopoly.





FOLLOW PATTERN TRENDS... ON THE CEILING

A tiled or panelled ceiling injects a shot of drama into a room, bringing instant impact to even the simplest of spaces. For a particularly-of-the-moment look, choose chevron or parquet-inspired patterns. Lightweight tile backer boards will make installation easier by providing a stable, strong base. They're also suitable for the heaviest of wall tiles, such as marble or stone.

GET THE LOOK These are Artist Palette wood-effect porcelain tiles, available in 60 colours, from £90 per sq m for Natural Colours; and £230 per sq m for all other colours, by The Stone & Ceramic Warehouse. →



HIGHLIGHT DECORATIVE WOODWORK

Although architectural features are usually finished in cool white, decorating them in a bolder colour really makes them sing. A stronger shade is ideal for highlighting finials, cornicing and cladding and adding visual weight to an entrance. 'Georgian homes often featured dark painted wood to mimic exotic hardwoods,' says David Mottershead, MD of Little Greene. 'Chocolate indicated wealth and status, as it was more expensive to produce than many other colours.'

GET THE LOOK Try Little Greene's *Chocolate intelligent eggshell*, £53 for 2.5l. For similar flooring, see the *Oak Old White pre-oiled engineered boards*, £68.33 per sq m, by *The Natural Wood Floor Company*.

FUNK UP A CLASSIC KITCHEN

Shaker-style furniture is inherently timeless, but it can be given a modern twist with striking metallic details. Chrome, nickel and stainless steel aren't the obvious materials of choice for kitchens that they once were, so opt for brass or gold bar-style handles to give a luxurious, modern touch that doesn't overwhelm the overall traditional look. While mixing metallics works in other rooms, stick with the warm metal theme and continue on the brassware, accessories and appliances.

GET THE LOOK This design was created by Smitten Studio for approx £5,770. The cabinetry is painted in Farrow & Ball's Pigeon estate eggshell, £53 for 2.5l. For similar handles, try Armac Martin Rotunda pull handles in Polished Brass, from £52.54 each, from More Handles. For a tap like this, check out the Partian C-spout tap in Gold 4341IG, £436.32, by Perrin & Rowe.



FIVE WAYS TO UPDATE YOUR KITCHEN

1 Change your splashback. This is an easy way to add colour, texture or personality to your kitchen. Make sure your material is in keeping with the style of the cabinetry and building, but don't be shy about introducing a new material into the scheme – as long as the colour works tonally, it should speak to the other elements.

2 Upgrade to natural stone worktops to add an extra layer of luxe. Granite may be the go-to, but the trend is moving towards marbles, slates and limestones – many of which offer a more individual aesthetic, with different finishes, such as finely riven, leathered, brushed, honed and polished, which personalises your design further.

3 Swap a tired kitchen tap for one with a beautifully designed shape or elegant finish to update your sink area. 'A copper tap will sit well in almost any kitchen,' says Sam Shaw, head designer and director at Sustainable Kitchens. 'It's a classic item, but copper is a long-lasting material with a beautifully evolving patina that complements other natural materials used for work surfaces or accent pieces.'

4 Display shelving is a kitchen staple, but rather than let what's on show fade into the background, add some lighting above or below to turn it into a feature. Strategically placed LED strip lighting is discreet and can be quickly retro-fitted.

5 Choose timber cabinetry and refreshing your kitchen will be as simple as sanding down, slicking on a suitable primer and following with your favourite paint shade for a new look. Try adding handles in unusual materials, such as glass, resin or copper.

GIVE STAIRS A CONTEMPORARY TREATMENT

A stairway might not be the most obvious place to use bold colour, but banisters, risers and posts and even the runner can be transformed with paint or unusual fabrics. Swap a runner or carpet for layered patterned woven rugs or mats fixed firmly in place with gripper strips, carpet glue, staples or tacks, or try painting on a design. If you plan to do this yourself, ensure it looks smart by using masking tape and protecting with clear, water-based flooring lacquer to prevent yellowing over time.

GET THE LOOK For similar rugs, try Myakka's kilims, from £49.95 each. For a similar pink paint, try Fuchsia Lily mixing gloss, £35.18 for 2.5l, by Dulux.



GET THE LOOK To achieve something similar to this simple but striking effect, use FrogTape Gloss & Satin masking tape, £6.99, Homebase, with Wimborne White; Bone; and Drawing Room Blue estate eggshells, each £58 for 2.5l, Farrow & Ball. Finish with Manns Extra Tough Pro lacquer, £77.39 for 5l, Wood Finishes Direct.



'Asymmetry is a great modern twist that brings movement and life to a classic stair runner'

ROGER OATES OF ROGER OATES FLOORS & FABRICS



BOOST PANELLING WITH PAINT EFFECTS

Striking paintwork, such as the vertical stripes here, can transform ornate paneling from fusty to funky. Using subtle changes in colour adds definition to walls, while the clean lines of a stripe are a stylish progression from the *ombré* trend. Ideal for emphasising the height of the room, this technique can also be used in low-ceilinged schemes to give a sense of vertical space.

Conversely, horizontal stripes would add a cosy feel.

GET THE LOOK Dulux offers a range of similar shades in Paint Mixing matt emulsion, from £24.49 for 2.5l.





'A trompe l'oeil wallpaper can give a sense of depth and convey luxury or casual vintage. And it's not expensive considering its effects'

ANDREW MARTIN

DECORATE WITH VISUAL EFFECTS

Trompe l'oeil painting will bring attention to previously pared-back spaces, such as this pale grey detailing that adds character to these doors and walls. The trick is to keep the effect subtle – whole vistas and faux-windows can look dated, so stick to delicately veined stone effects, authentic architectural details and decorative motifs that appear to play with light and shade.

GET THE LOOK *Decorative Effects could create a similar trompe l'oeil door and panel design; the daily rate for an artist is £350, not including material and sundry costs.*

FIVE VISUAL TRICKS TO ADD IMPACT

1 *Striped configurations*, such as a herringbone pattern, give the illusion of a larger space and direct the eye through the room. Switch from a horizontal line to a vertical layout to highlight key feature areas.

2 *High-contrast details* give smaller pieces of furniture more visual weight. Try re-covering favourite items in pale fabric, then add piping in a dark or bright shade to 'outline' it.

3 *Don't consign pattern* to a solitary feature wall. Repeat prints in different shades or use a similar colourway, but with different scales to create a distinction between fabrics, walls and furniture.

4 *Use lighting to enlarge* a narrow space. A series of pendant lights, as opposed to a single fitting, will give the illusion of length and space, while wall or floor lights add depth. Be sure to choose light fittings that suit the size of the room – too large and the space will feel cramped and too bright.

5 *Colour can create visual balance* in an awkwardly shaped room. Deeper tones advance, so use them to make walls appear closer, while paler tones recede, so you can subtly modify each wall to make a disordered space seem more roomy.



SHAPE UP TOPIARY

The modern take on topiary is all about continuing architectural structure and form outside, subtly dividing, uniting, framing and embellishing areas with soft lines.

Taller, ornate styles are more traditional, so try pruning *Buxus* (box) plants, a topiary staple, into lower and wider forms for a contemporary twist on the technique. 'Strategically, spacing topiary along a path creates a filter between a house and its lawn,' explains the design team at Tom Stuart-Smith.

GET THE LOOK The cost of a garden design by Tom Stuart-Smith depends on the project. This pavilion was designed by architect Jamie Fobert, in collaboration with designer and fabricator Mike Smith Studio for a garden Tom created for the Chelsea Flower Show.

MAKE A FOCAL POINT WITH PIPES

Mix old-world style with a contemporary trend and the result is sure to be spectacular. Exuding the same utilitarian luxury that gives exposed filament light bulbs their charm, undisguised copper piping adds an industrial edge and a sense of history. As well as creating raw appeal, pipes can help frame parts of a room, turning each into a separate focal point and contrasting beautifully with simple white walls and panelling.

GET THE LOOK *Interior designer Oliver Burns could create a similar exposed pipework design – from approx £10,000.*



GET THE LOOK The design below is by American stylist and designer Smitten Studio and cost approx £3,200. For a basin like these, try the Cooke & Lewis square countertop basin, £143; and for similar wall tiles, see Padstow white ceramic wall tiles, £60 per sq m, all B&Q. The 14415W-3-CP Purist 3-hole wall-mounted basin mixers with cross handles in Polished Gold, £849, are by Kohler. For a similar mirror, try the Watertec 600, £44, at Bathstore.



SET METRO TILES IN A MODERN PATTERN

Simple metro tiles can be used to create a wall that commands attention when laid in an unexpected way instead of a conventional brick-style configuration. Herringbone, diagonal and crosshatch layouts prevent the tiles from recessing into the background, while also giving the impression of a larger tiled area and creating greater contrast between the walls and your furniture. Choose flooring in a matching shade and it'll also make the space feel less cluttered, even if you opt for a different format.

GET THE LOOK For similar wall tiles, try Baker Street glazed ceramic tiles in Coal, available in seven colours, from £49.84 per sq m, by Johnson Tiles. Karol's Lignum drawer unit designed by Giancarlo Vigni is similar, from £1,776, at CP Hart.



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Paris rocks

A spate of new hotel openings makes the French capital the hottest city this season

Words – Sarah Baldwin

We all know about the beauty of Paris – gorgeous architecture, world-class museums and oh-so-stylish shops. Not to mention its incredible restaurants and delicious pâtisseries. But over the past year, we've noticed something afoot in the City of Light. As well as new concept stores and bars, design hotels are cropping up apace, so there's more choice than ever for the aesthete.

We've picked three properties that not only have design cred by the bucketload, but also a rich history to match: The Peninsula, a grand, old-school hotel given a chic new lease of life; The Molitor, a former public swimming pool that's now an achingly well-crafted hotel; and the stunning Les Bains, once a raging nightclub frequented by the likes of Mick Jagger and Kate Moss. Whichever you choose, as Audrey said (in *Sabrina*), Paris is always a good idea...

THIS PICTURE The hotel's 46m outdoor Art-Deco pool. BELOW Interior designer Jean-Philippe Nuel dressed The Molitor's bedrooms and suites in a relaxing grey palette



THE MOLITOR, 16th arrondissement

THE LOWDOWN An Art Deco lido that's now a hotel and members' club.

BEST FOR Design lovers who are partial to a dip.

The Molitor lido has been a 16th-arrondissement establishment since it opened in 1929, when it quickly became a hot spot for bathing beauties (the bikini made its first appearance here). The architectural masterpiece fell into disrepair during the Eighties, but has now been reincarnated as a high-end hotel, sports club and Clarins spa, complete with a restaurant and rooftop bar. Once likened to a cruise liner, the structure is an exemplar of Deco design. The sensitive restoration includes original stained-glass porthole windows and mosaic floors, teamed with concrete walls and exposed industrial fittings for a modern twist. Twenties-style furniture and icy-blue accents complete the look of the public spaces, while the 104 rooms and 20 suites boast sleek monochromes. Our tip? Book a room overlooking the outdoor pool. Be sure to pack your bathers in winter; for the softies, there's a 33m indoor *piscine* too.

BOOK IT Double rooms from £158 (mgallery.com).



LES BAINS, 3rd arrondissement

THE LOWDOWN Five-star luxury on the site of a former famed nightclub.

BEST FOR Night owls looking to stay in a hipster part of town.

The Haussmann-era building that houses this 39-room hotel has a wonderfully colourful story. A few steps from the Pompidou Centre in the vibrant Marais district, it used to be the city's most famous thermal bathhouse before it was transformed into the most notorious nightclub of the Seventies – Paris's answer to NYC's Studio 54, with Andy Warhol, David Bowie, Mick Jagger, Karl Lagerfeld and Kate Moss as regulars. The club closed in 2010, but it wasn't long before the new owner, film-maker Jean-Pierre Marois, created the chic boutique hotel it is today. The bar/restaurant remains a highlight – a moody, blood-red space, dripping with references to its heritage, from floor tiles that chime with the bathhouse theme to framed fluoro posters of Eighties gigs. French elegance best describes the bedrooms, which, with their distressed carpets and walls, have a timeless appeal. Will the hotel have as starry a guest list as the club had? We reckon so...

BOOK IT Double rooms from approx £210 (designhotels.com).



CLOCKWISE FROM THIS PICTURE Silk sheets and custom-made furniture are just a few of the highlights in a Les Bains Junior suite; La Salle-à-Manger restaurant's red walls and domed ceiling set off the mahogany tables; and a sculpture of Bacchus adorns Les Bains' main entrance





THE PENINSULA, 16th arrondissement

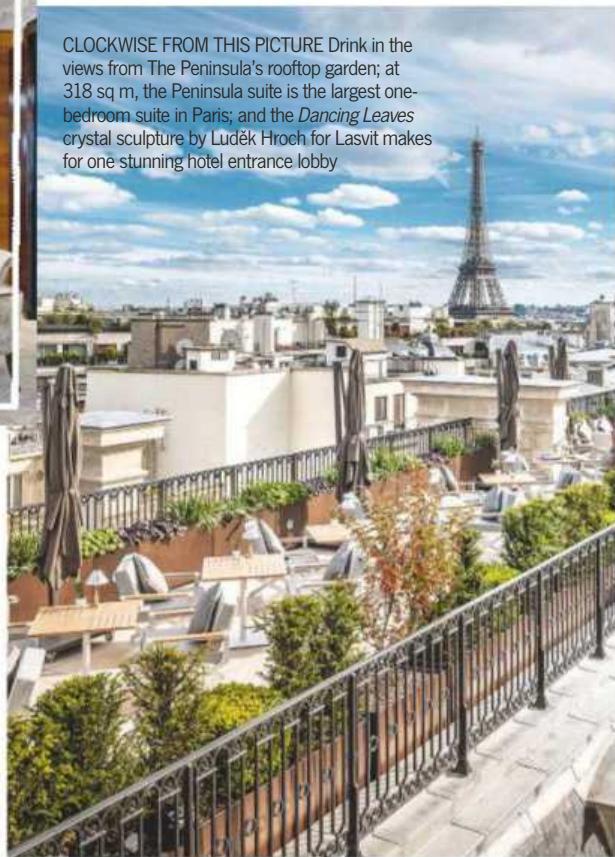
THE LOWDOWN Old-school extravagance near the Arc de Triomphe.

BEST FOR Glamourpusses eager to retrace the steps of Picasso or Proust.

Pack your finest for a trip to The Peninsula – the moment you set foot in the wonderfully OTT lobby, with its bespoke installation of 800 hand-blown crystal leaves, you know you're in the land of luxe. One of Paris's original *grandes dames*, it first opened as the Hotel Majestic in 1908 and played host to high society for several decades (including Stravinsky, Proust, Joyce and Picasso) before falling into government hands during the Second World War. Restoration to its former glory took six years and 40,000 pieces of gold leaf. Every detail was painstakingly considered and each room features both sumptuous interiors in greys and creams and super-smart technology – there are even personal nail-varnish dryers in the dressing rooms. Secure one of the suites with a private roof garden or courtyard and you'll really be living *la vie en rose...*

BOOK IT Double rooms from approx £570 a night (paris.peninsula.com).

CLOCKWISE FROM THIS PICTURE Drink in the views from The Peninsula's rooftop garden; at 318 sq m, the Peninsula suite is the largest one-bedroom suite in Paris; and the *Dancing Leaves* crystal sculpture by Luděk Hroch for Lasvit makes for one stunning hotel entrance lobby



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Classic Victoria sponge cake

Serves 6

- 100g plain flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 4 eggs
- 110g caster sugar
- 75g unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 125ml single cream
- icing sugar, for dusting

FOR THE STRAWBERRY JAM

- 500g strawberries, hulled and roughly chopped
- 110g caster sugar
- 1 vanilla bean, split and seeds scraped
- 1 tablespoon white balsamic vinegar

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4. Lightly grease 2 x 20cm round shallow cake tins and line them with non-stick baking paper.
- To make the strawberry jam, heat a large non-stick frying pan over a medium heat. Add the strawberries, sugar and vanilla bean and seeds and stir until the strawberries start to soften and release liquid. Bring to the boil and cook, stirring occasionally, for 14-18 minutes, or until thickened. Add the vinegar and stir well to combine. Remove from the heat, discarding the vanilla bean and allow to cool completely. Refrigerate until cold.
- Sift the flour and baking powder three times and set aside.
- Place the eggs and sugar in an electric mixer and whisk on a high speed for 12-15 minutes, or until pale, thick and tripled in volume.
- Sift half the flour mixture over the egg mixture and, using a large metal spoon, gently fold to combine. Repeat with the remaining flour. Add the butter and gently fold to combine.
- Divide the mixture between the tins and gently smooth the tops with a palette knife. Bake for 14-18 minutes, or until the sponges are springy to the touch and come away from the sides of the tins. Remove the cakes from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack covered with a tea towel.
- Whisk the cream until soft peaks form. Spread one cake with the jam, top with the cream and sandwich with the remaining cake. Dust with icing sugar to serve.

Mini rose-water sponge cakes

Makes 6

- 100g plain flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 4 eggs
- 110g caster sugar
- 1½ teaspoons rose-water
- 75g unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 125ml single cream
- ½ tablespoon icing sugar, sifted
- ¼ teaspoon rose-water, extra
- 2 tablespoons chopped pistachios
- 110g pomegranate seeds
- vanilla-flavoured Persian fairy floss, to serve (available at the Foodhall in Selfridges)

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4. Line the base of 6 x 180ml lightly greased, round loose-bottomed cake tins with non-stick baking paper.
- Sift the flour and baking powder three times and set aside.
- Place the eggs, sugar and rose-water in an electric mixer and whisk on a high speed for 12-15 minutes, or until pale, thick and tripled in volume. Sift half the flour mixture over the egg mixture and, using a large metal spoon, gently fold to combine. Repeat with the remaining flour. Add the butter and gently fold to combine.
- Divide the mixture between the tins and bake for 16-18 minutes, or until the sponges are springy to the touch and come away from the sides of the tins. Remove the cakes from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack covered with a tea towel.
- Place the cream, icing sugar and extra rose-water in a bowl and whisk until soft peaks form.
- Divide the cream between the cakes and top with the pistachio, pomegranate and fairy floss to serve.



Chocolate sponge layer cake with vanilla mascarpone cream

Serves 8

- 75g plain flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- 2 tablespoons cocoa
- 5 eggs
- 110g caster sugar
- 50g unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 500g mascarpone
- 125ml single cream
- 40g icing sugar, sifted
- 1 teaspoon vanilla bean paste
- 100g raspberries
- 100g strawberries
- 100g golden or red cherries
- icing sugar, extra, for dusting

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4. Lightly grease 2 x 20cm shallow round cake tins and line them with non-stick baking paper.

- Sift the flour, baking powder and cocoa three times and set aside.
- Place the eggs and sugar in an electric mixer and whisk on a high speed for 12-15 minutes, or until pale, thick and tripled in volume. Sift half the flour mixture over the egg mixture and, using a large metal spoon, gently fold to combine. Repeat with the remaining flour. Add the butter and fold to combine.

- Divide the mixture between the tins and gently smooth the tops with a palette knife. Bake for 14-18 minutes, or until the sponges are springy to the touch and come away from the sides of the tins. Remove the cakes from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack covered with a tea towel.

- Put the mascarpone, cream, icing sugar and vanilla bean paste in a bowl and whisk until soft peaks form. Using a serrated knife, cut the cakes in half horizontally. Spread the bottom layer with the mascarpone mixture, top with another cake layer and repeat with the remaining layers, finishing with a layer of mascarpone.

- Top with the raspberries, strawberries and cherries and dust with the icing sugar to serve.



Almond Swiss roll with white chocolate cream and raspberries

Serves 6-8

- 75g plain flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 60g ground almonds
- 4 eggs
- 110g caster sugar
- 50g unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 2 tablespoons caster sugar, extra
- 80g raspberries, roughly torn

FOR THE WHITE CHOCOLATE CREAM

- 250ml single cream
- 90g white chocolate, finely chopped

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4. Lightly grease a 36 x 24cm Swiss roll tin and line it with non-stick baking paper.
- Sift the flour, baking powder and ground almond three times and set aside.
- Place the eggs and sugar in an electric mixer and whisk on a high speed for 12-15 minutes, or until pale, thick and tripled in volume. Sift half the flour mixture over the egg mixture and, using a large metal spoon, gently fold to combine. Repeat with the remaining flour. Add the butter and gently fold to combine.
- Divide the mixture between the tins and bake for 15-18 minutes, or until the sponges are springy to the touch and come away from the sides of the tins. Remove the cakes from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack covered with a tea towel.
- Using a serrated knife, halve the cakes horizontally and set aside. Whisk the cream until stiff peaks form and spread the bottom halves of the cake with the cream. Place 1 teaspoon of the lemon curd in the centre of each cake and sandwich with the remaining halves.
- To make the elderflower glaze, put the icing sugar, cordial and water in a bowl and stir well to combine. Drizzle the cakes with the glaze and allow to set before serving.

Lemon and elderflower sponge cakes

Makes 6

- 100g plain flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 4 eggs
- 110g caster sugar
- 1 tablespoon finely grated lemon zest
- 75g unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 80ml single cream
- 2 tablespoons store-bought lemon curd

FOR THE ELDERFLOWER GLAZE

- 240g icing sugar, sifted
- 1 tablespoon elderflower cordial
- 2½ teaspoons hot water

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4. Line the base of 6 x 180ml lightly greased, round loose-bottomed cake tins with non-stick baking paper.
- Sift the flour and baking powder three times and set aside.
- Place the eggs, sugar and lemon zest in an electric mixer and whisk on a high speed for 12-15 minutes, or until pale, thick and tripled in volume. Sift half the flour mixture over the egg mixture and, using a large metal spoon, gently fold to combine. Repeat with the remaining flour. Add the butter and gently fold to combine.
- Divide the mixture between the tins and bake for 15-18 minutes, or until the sponges are springy to the touch and come away from the sides of the tins. Remove the cakes from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack covered with a tea towel.
- Using a serrated knife, halve the cakes horizontally and set aside. Whisk the cream until stiff peaks form and spread the bottom halves of the cake with the cream. Place 1 teaspoon of the lemon curd in the centre of each cake and sandwich with the remaining halves.
- To make the elderflower glaze, put the icing sugar, cordial and water in a bowl and stir well to combine. Drizzle the cakes with the glaze and allow to set before serving.





Vanilla sponge cake with cream and passion fruit

Serves 6

- 100g plain flour
- ½ teaspoon baking powder
- 4 eggs
- 110g caster sugar
- 1 teaspoon vanilla bean paste
- 75g unsalted butter, melted and cooled
- 120g sour cream
- 125ml single cream
- 2 tablespoons icing sugar, sifted
- 80ml passion-fruit pulp (approx 4 passion fruit)

- Preheat the oven to 180°C/gas mark 4. Line 2 x 20cm lightly greased, shallow round cake tins with non-stick baking paper.
- Sift the flour and baking powder three times and set aside.
- Place the eggs, sugar and vanilla bean paste in an electric mixer and whisk on a high speed for 12-15 minutes, or until pale, thick and tripled in volume. Sift half the flour mixture over the egg mixture and, using a large metal spoon, gently fold to combine. Repeat with the remaining flour. Add the butter and gently fold to combine.
- Divide the mixture between the tins and gently smooth the tops with a palette knife. Bake for 14-18 minutes, or until the sponges are springy to the touch and come away from the sides of the tins. Remove the cakes from the tins and cool completely on a wire rack covered with a tea towel.
- Put the sour cream, cream and icing sugar in a bowl and whisk until soft peaks form. Spread one cake with half the cream mixture and drizzle with half the passion-fruit pulp. Sandwich with the remaining cake and top with the remaining cream and passion fruit to serve.

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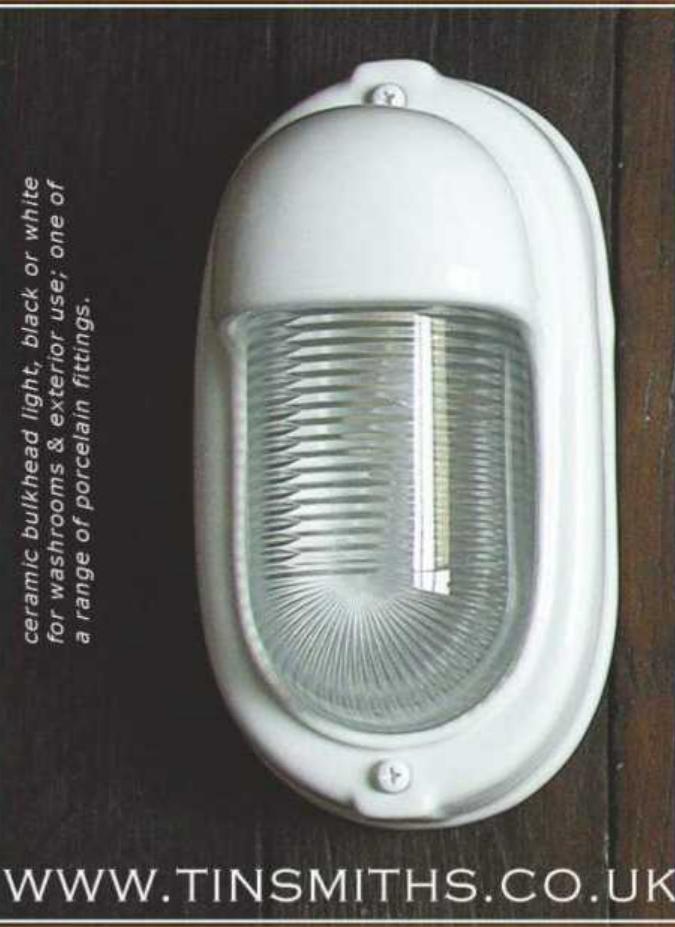
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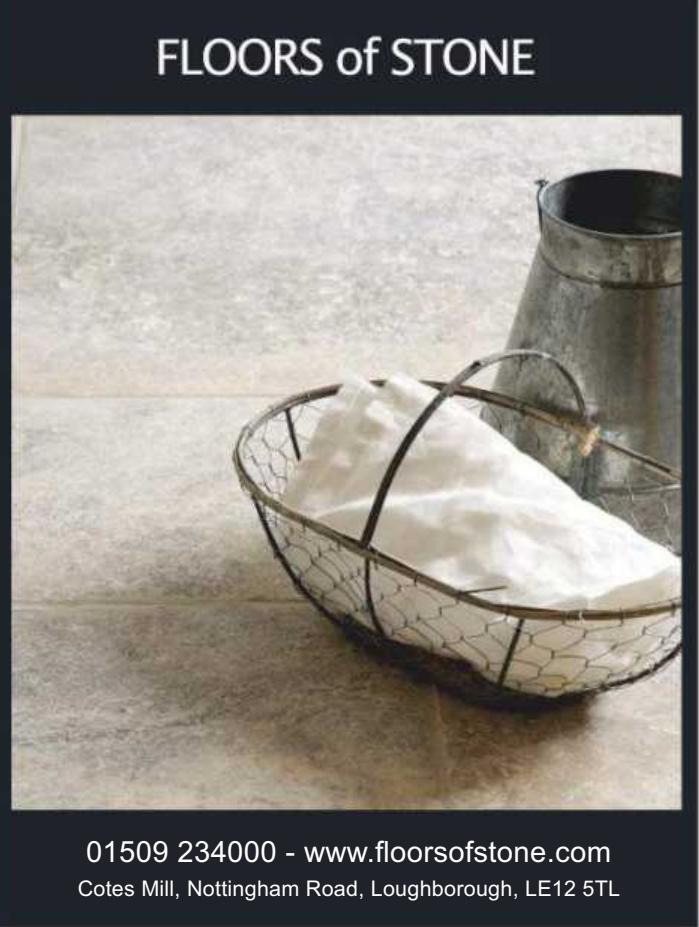
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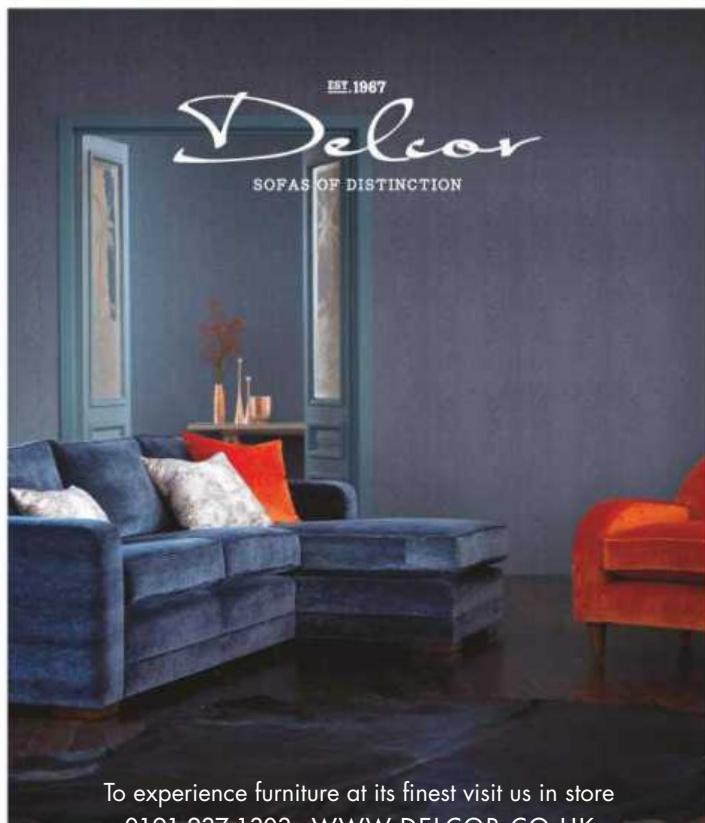
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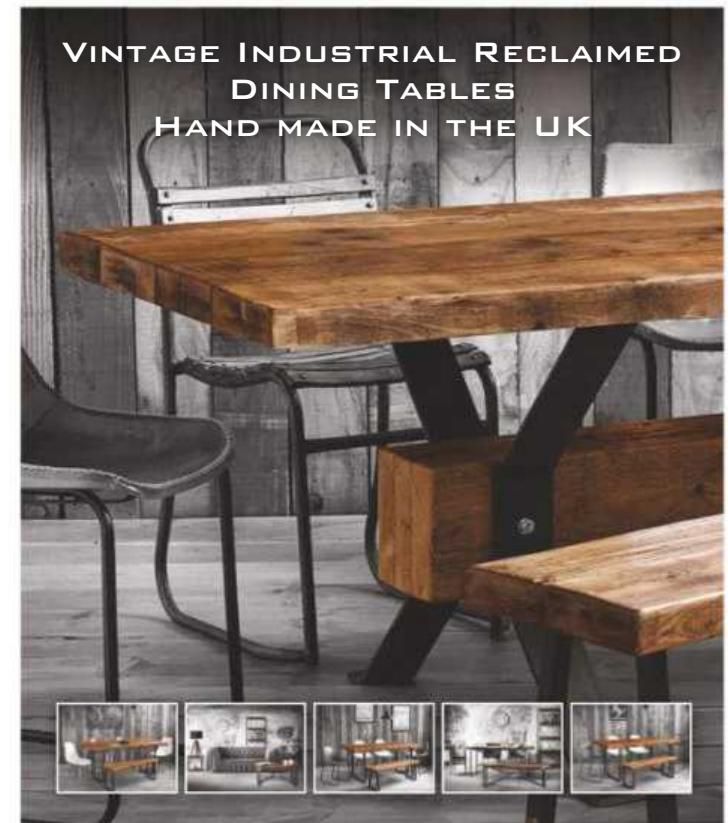
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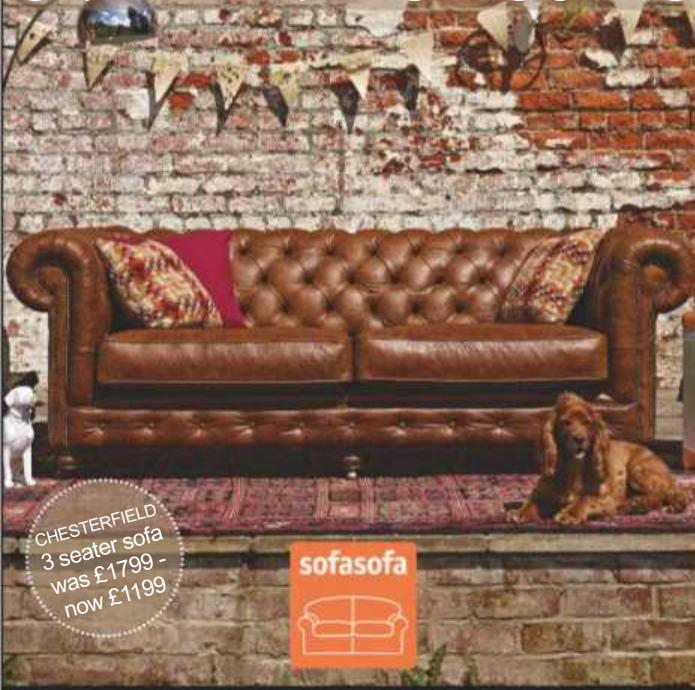
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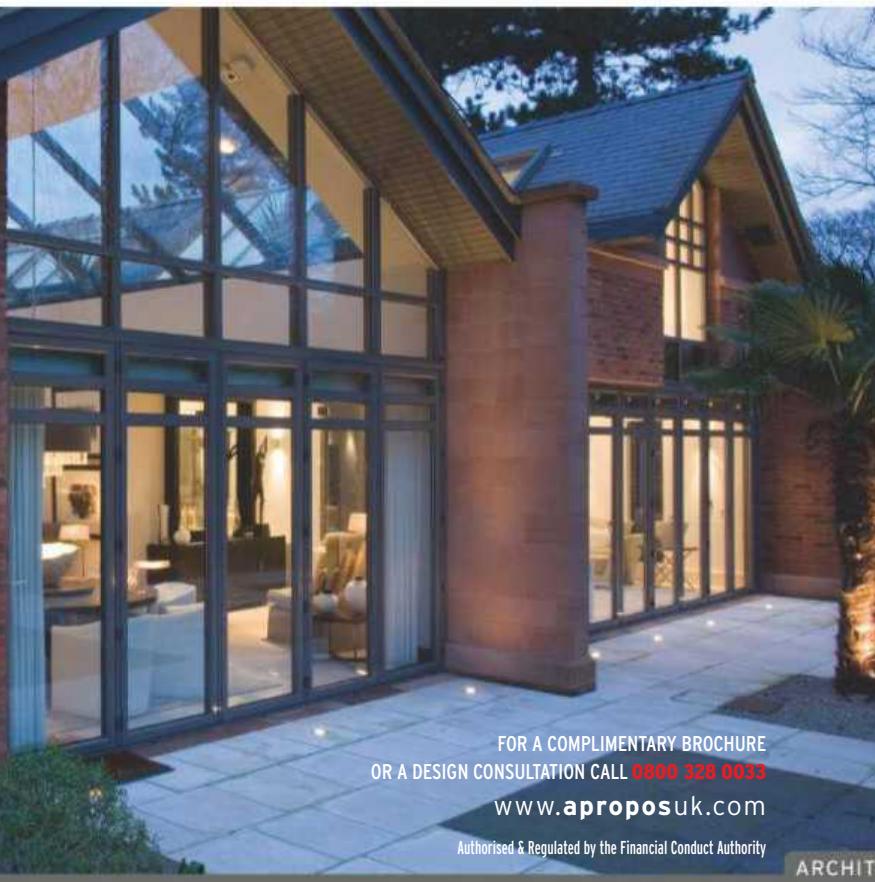


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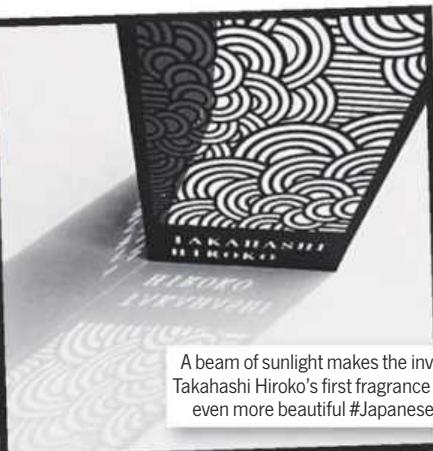
Take a peek at what team @Livingetc got up to while preparing this issue



Ocean scenes

Nautical colours of every hue float across the moodboard for our *In the Navy* decorating shoot (page 49)

Editorial assistant @AmyMoorea talks design with pattern experts @EleyKishimoto



A beam of sunlight makes the invitation to Takahashi Hiroko's first fragrance collection even more beautiful #JapaneseStories



Houses editor Mary makes a new friend on the *Wild Things* shoot (page 78)



In the grove

A perfectly set table – no surprise at a dinner by @Heals_Furniture to launch its Westbourne Grove concept store



Photographer Damian Russell practises his yoga poses while shooting *The Simple Life* trend shoot (page 65) #multitasking



'I know it's here somewhere...' Style editor Hannah searches for that perfect piece of fabric



Style assistant Jesse gets the blues on our *In the Navy* shoot. Well, the blue, anyway



Bird man

Deputy editor @NeilMcLenn shakes his tail feathers to celebrate @WilliamandSon's new Mayfair shop

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